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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

International arms transfers

Report of the Secretary-General

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* A/45/150 and Corr.1.

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 7 December 1988, the General Assembly adopted resolution 43/75 I entitled "International arms transfers".

2. On 15 December 1989, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/116 N entitled "International arms transfers", paragraphs 1 to 4 of which read as follows:

> "The General Assembly,
>
> "...
>
> "1. Invites all Member States that have not yet done so to make available to the Secretary-General their views and proposals on the matters contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 43/75 I;
>
> "2. Requests the Disarmament Commission to continue its deliberation on the matters contained in the above-mentioned resolution during its 1990 session under the item of conventional disarmament;
>
> "3. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to make available within the framework of resolution 43/75 I all relevant information on this matter;
>
> "4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-fifth session the item entitled 'International arms transfers'."

3. Pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 43/75 I and paragraph 3 of resolution 44/116 N, the Secretary-General, in notes verbales dated 7 February 1989 and 16 February 1990, requested all Member States to submit their views and proposals as well as any other relevant information on this matter. To date the Secretary-General has received replies from Canada, China, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, Mali, Mexico and Pakistan. The replies are reproduced in section II of the present report.

4. Moreover, pursuant to paragraph 5 of resolution 43/75 I, the Secretary-General appointed a group of governmental experts to carry out a study on international arms transfers. The Group thus far held two sessions and will submit its report to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session in 1991.

II. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

CANADA

[Original: English]

[27 June 1990]

1. As one of the co-sponsors of resolution 43/75 I, entitled "International arms transfers", adopted by the General Assembly on 7 December 1988, and of resolution 44/116 N, adopted on 15 December 1989, Canada believes that the question of international arms transfers is one that deserves serious consideration by the States Members of the United Nations.

2. The last two decades have seen a large increase in the international trade of conventional arms without, in most cases, a corresponding enhancement of international peace and security. In addition, in recent years the nature of the arms trade has changed, so that an increasing amount of it is conducted through semi-official and unofficial channels.

3. International arms transfers are a reflection of the international security system, in which the responsibility of providing security is not shared by all States but rests with each one. As such, they are likely to remain a feature of international relations for the foreseeable future. Nevertheless, Canada believes that increased restraint by all States with respect to the transfer of arms would contribute to the promotion of peace and security, particularly in areas of actual or potential conflict.

4. In addition, Canada considers that greater openness and transparency in this field would contribute to the easing of international and regional tensions and thus facilitate arms control and disarmament measures.

5. Because of its concerns about the detrimental effects of unrestricted arms transfers, Canada closely controls the export of military goods and technology to all countries except the United States of America, and generally denies the export of such goods and technology to the following: (a) countries that pose a threat to Canada and its allies; (b) countries involved in or under the imminent threat of hostilities; (c) countries under Security Council sanctions; and (d) countries whose Governments have a persistent record of serious violations of human rights, unless there is no risk that the goods might be used against the civilian population.

6. Canada defines military goods using a multilaterally-arrived at international munitions list. This list includes arms and ammunition, as well as equipment and parts "specially designed for military purposes", such as military vehicles, military range-finding equipment and certain types of electronic equipment, manufactured to military specifications. In addition, Canada scrutinizes on a case-by-case basis certain types of "strategic" or "dual-use" equipment such as helicopters which, although built to civilian specifications, are intended for military users for military purposes. This aspect of Canadian export control policy is currently under review.

7. Canada does not exercise extraterritorial control over its exports, thus care is taken in assessing export transactions before the goods leave Canada. In all cases, we seek to ensure by a variety of means (including, when appropriate, end-user certificates) that there will be no diversion of goods to a third country or to use for unauthorized purposes.

8. The disclosure of individual export permits is generally protected in Canada, but statistics on the export of military goods, indicating the aggregate value of Canadian military exports to each country, are maintained by the Government and released to parliamentarians and members of the public upon specific request.

9. Canada is pleased that, as requested in General Assembly resolution 43/75 I, the Secretary-General is carrying out, with the assistance of governmental experts, a study on ways and means of promoting transparency in international transfers of conventional arms on a universal and non-discriminatory basis. Canada believes that it is essential to achieve international agreement on the means of achieving increased openness and transparency in this area before multilaterally-agreed mechanisms for implementing arms transfer controls can be considered.

CHINA

[Original: Chinese/English]

[5 April 1990]

1. The question of international arms transfer should be addressed with a serious, discreet and responsible attitude. The transfer of arms must serve to safeguard the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the States concerned, and to contribute to the maintenance of their necessary and reasonable defence capability. No country should interfere in the internal affairs of others by means of arms transfer.

2. International arms transfer should be helpful to the people in their just struggles against colonial domination, foreign aggression and occupation and for the realization or restoration of their inalienable rights to national self-determination and independence.

3. International arms transfer should be conducive to the preservation and enhancement of peace, security and stability in the regions concerned and the world at large.

4. The strict prohibition of all types of arms transfer should be applied to those States or régimes which, in violation of the Charter of the United Nations and the basic norms governing international relations, subject other countries to aggression, expansion and military occupation and practise racism and colonial domination. The countries concerned should take vigorous measures to stop international arms transfer, which is related to such illegal acts as drug trafficking and international terrorism, and to strengthen international co-operation in this respect.

5. The question of international arms transfer should be addressed in conjunction with the questions of reducing international tension, removing regional conflicts, checking the arms race and realizing disarmament under effective supervision.

6. On the basis of compliance with the above-mentioned principles, the rational regulation and limitation of international arms transfer could be accomplished so as to promote stability at a low level of armament and enhance world peace and security.

7. The countries that are the biggest arms suppliers bear a special responsibility in regulating and limiting international arms transfer, and they should take the lead in doing so. The United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics should take the lead in adopting concrete and effective self-restraining measures, including drastic reductions in their arms exports, so as to create favourable conditions for consultations and negotiations among all arms supplier and recipient countries on the rational regulation and limitation of international arms transfer.

8. The arms supplier and recipient countries, as well as other countries concerned, should be encouraged to carry out consultations and negotiations on an equal footing based on the principle of undiminished security of all the parties and other relevant principles as contained in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly, the first special session devoted to disarmament (General Assembly resolution S-10/2), and reach agreement on the rational regulation and limitation of international arms transfer.

9. The United Nations should play a useful role in rationally regulating and limiting international arms transfer. For instance, it should urge the countries that are the biggest arms suppliers to discharge their special responsibility and take the lead in adopting self-restraining measures; it should encourage all States to carry out consultations and reach agreement on the rational regulation and limitation of arms transfer and provide necessary consulting and technical services to them; and it should initiate studies and formulate necessary and effective measures against such arms transfer, which should be prohibited.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

[Original: English]

[2 August 1990]

1. The Czech and Slovak Federal Republic considers the question of international arms trade to be an important part of the efforts by the international community aimed at attaining greater openness and transparency. That goal, in the final result, will enhance mutual confidence and may favourably influence further progress in the area of real disarmament.

2. In available expert studies, Czechoslovakia ranks seventh in the world in arms exports in the last five years - behind the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and

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the United States of America, France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the People's Republic of China and the Federal Republic of Germany.

3. Proceeding from the new, democratic and humanistic orientation of the Czechoslovak internal and external policies, President Václav Havel of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Jiři Dienstbier, have repeatedly declared that halting arms deliveries is the forward-oriented goal of Czechoslovakia's foreign policy.

4. It has to be stressed, in this context, that the solution of the issue at hand will be a very complicated process involving in practice a number of other areas. Currently, the problem is under consideration by all the interested sectors in Czechoslovakia, after which we shall proceed to the political decision on a gradual limitation of the Czechoslovak arms trade. The elaboration of the concrete approach takes into account the considerable economic and primarily socal impacts that make the whole matter extremely sensitive. But we do not wish to prolong the implementation of the adopted decision. At the same time, it is not possible to accelerate it too much, because only a responsible and balanced approach guarantees a successful attainment of the desired objective.

5. Openness and transparency are, in our view, an important element in controlling the arms trade. In response to General Assembly resolution 44/114 B, Czechoslovakia recently for the first time published data about the expenditures earmarked for military purposes drawn up in accordance with United Nations methodology. We published them simultaneously at the Vienna disarmament talks. Furthermore, the Government decided in April 1990 to halt the production of tanks by 1991; to halt, within a period of two to three years, the manufacture of infantry fighting vehicles; and to deliver combat aircraft without the possibility of their being fitted with weapon systems. It plans to scale down the production of artillery systems. It is obvious from the above that, parallel to that, solutions have to be found for the specific problems of converting the military output to a civilian one.

6. For the transitory period, Czechoslovakia considers it of utmost importance to change the past orientation of the arms exports. There must be no exports to areas of ongoing conflict or to countries with a totalitarian system of government.

7. The significance that is being attached by the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic to this problem area is attested by the participation of an expert of ours in the elaboration of a United Nations study on the ways and means of enhancing transparency of the international trade in conventional arms. The result of the work of the group, which is in the form of a study to be submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, is considered by us to be very needful, both from the international point of view and as an aid in the internal consideration of this problem.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

[Original: English]

[3 July 1990]

1. Greater openness and more restraint in regard to arms transfers would no doubt contribute to the strengthening of international and regional security and to the peaceful settlement of conflicts and would boost ongoing disarmament efforts. The most recent developments in international affairs provide favourable conditions for co-operative action by arms exporting countries.

2. The German Democratic Republic believes that action at the national, regional and global levels is needed to alleviate the problems involved in international arms transfers. This implies that States should show self-restraint in supplying and acquiring arms, but also that there should be consultations between the major suppliers and buyers of arms on a limitation of arms transfers and the introduction of an international arms trade register. Due attention should be devoted to questions relating to covert international arms trafficking.

3. The United Nations should play a more active part in increasing transparency and restricting the arms trade. That would be in line with the Charter of the United Nations and with the decisions adopted by the first special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament and by the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development. A first step could be, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 43/75 I, the study to be carried out by the Secretary-General on ways and means of promoting transparency in international arms transfers. It should focus on an in-depth analysis of the problems listed under paragraph 1 of the resolution and make recommendations for national and international measures to curb world-wide arms transfers and achieve greater transparency in this field. The United Nations Disarmament Commission should, in future, devote more attention to this subject-matter, drawing on the discussions of the last few years in which it related to the question of international arms transfers in the context of the consideration of conventional disarmament and taking into account the United Nations study to be submitted next year.

4. The German Democratic Republic supports the recommendation contained in General Assembly resolution 43/75 I that national systems of control concerning the production and transport of arms should be reinforced. It will take immediate action with a view to reducing its arms production and exports and, in the forseeable future, stopping them altogether. Arms are not exported to crisis areas as a matter of general policy.

MALI

[Original: French]

[21 December 1990]

1. In line with its constructive policy towards the search for peace and security, which are conditions for economic and social development, the Government of the Republic of Mali supports every action or measure that furthers the regulation of international arms transfers or partial disarmament, which are guarantees of world-wide tranquillity.

2. The proposals put forward by Malta in 1965 and by Denmark in 1968 for the establishment of a system of reporting on international arms sales with the aim of controlling the proliferation of arms were attempts to revive an old idea of the League of Nations which, had it come to fruition, would have laid the foundations for regulation in this area. But the scepticism and mistrust with which the proposed undertaking was greeted in various quarters shows that the uncontrolled proliferation of conventional weapons is still a very real problem today and portends dangerous and untoward consequences for the international situation.

3. Given the highly political nature of the problem, the measures called for by resolution 43/75 I have met with numerous difficulties both as regards the principles and their implementation.

(a) The first measure involves the principle of national sovereignty. Indeed reinforcing national systems of control implies the subordination of those systems to minimum rules that are valid for all States. However, on grounds of sovereignty, States would be reluctant to accept any form of interference in their domestic affairs, especially defence matters, which are areas par excellence for the production and transfer of arms. Thus the economc and strategic stake involved in such activities for some (the producing Powers) and the security stake for the others are the main obstacle to regulation:

(i) While this is not the place for finger pointing, it must nevertheless be noted that full responsibility for the failure to regulate the production and the transfer of conventional weapons so far belongs to the five permanent members of the Security Council, especially the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

(ii) Examples from the past clearly illustrate the attitude of the two super-Powers which have on numerous occasions, opposed the inclusion in the agenda of the General Assembly of any discussion on the regulation of the production and transfer of conventional weapons. Attention has thus remained focused on the issues of nuclear weapons;

(iii) Since the basic features of the arms race have still not changed significantly, it is a fact that, owing to the important role they play in arms transfers and their ability to influence the course of international relations with respect to armaments, the two super-Powers

alone are effectively able to initiate and manage a process of control over world-wide arms manufacturing and shipments. However, the parameters of this process have become complex owing to the spread of conventional weapons production;

(b) The second measure, which recommends that States refrain from acquiring arms beyond what they legitimately need for their reasonable security, poses a problem of judgement, which can only be subjective:

(i) Who is to be the judge of the level of armament necessary to guarantee the security and defence of each State? These are notions which are, in the final analysis, fluid because of the many factors which enter into any assessment of a country's defence and security;

(ii) Even States in the same subregion necessarily judge their defence and security requirements in relation to geopolitical and geostrategic data and considerations of vulnerability. In short, the potential or real threats facing each State are judged from a national viewpoint which is peculiar to each State;

(c) The third measure raises the question of the existence of effective political will on the part of States to control arms transfers as essential factors for the maintenance of peace and world security, in which everyone has an equal share. Openness and transparency on the part of certain parties in this regard is a condition for a measure of trust among the others. There must therefore be some reciprocity in the principles in these areas. Although the problems posed by the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 43/75 I are difficult to solve, some practical steps, albeit partial and certainly imperfect, can be envisaged:

(i) As an earnest of their political will to work together for the achievement of the ideal of the United Nations, namely, a world of peace through control of the production and transfer of arms, all Member States, especially those recognized as the most concerned, might be asked to set up a national body to identify and deal with the entire range of arms control issues. Such national bodies would be linked among themselves through agreements at both the subregional and the regional level, and would also be linked with specialized agencies for these same purposes. The agencies themselves must be provided with the necessary technical structures and legal powers to perform the essential task of working out, co-ordinating and monitoring the implementation of measures jointly agreed upon by States;

(ii) These agencies would constitute the linchpin in the machinery for solving the entire range of problems posed by arms production and transfers;

(iii) The solution might lie in including in the terms of references of the agencies the technical function and capacity to determine, in co-operation with the relevant national agencies, the legitimate requirements of States with respect to arms, in the light of the specific

characteristics of each region or subregion and, in particular, the distinctive national characteristics of individual countries. The setting of standards of this kind will provide a key for interpreting the arms programmes of States, making it possible to "zero in" on their intentions on the international scene;

(iv) The solution would also entail reviving and adapting the reporting system already tried by the United Nations during the 1960s, combining it with the principle of on-site inspection. Such a system would make it mandatory for all States to report on a regular basis any new acquisitions to their regional or subregional agency. The agencies would have the right to check the accuracy of such reports at any time;

(v) The ideas set out above, which have been presented only in broad outline, have been suggested by past attempts at regulating the production and transfer of arms and by the prospects that are offered by the current status of efforts in this field.

4. The efficacy of the measures proposed here presupposes the existence, including within the United Nations, of a central body having the same terms of reference and legal and technical powers as those vested in the regional and subregional agencies and national bodies.

5. Admittedly, there are in existence bodies that deal with disarmament issues both in the United Nations and at the regional and subregional levels, but nowhere have the activities of such bodies been as effective as had been hoped in reversing the upward trend in the manufacture and transfer of arms.

6. It is also an established fact that the extreme sensitivity of States to the sacrosanct principle of national sovereignty and the strategic and economic interests of certain other States have been the major obstacles to the solution of the problem.

7. Nevertheless, the current international situation with regard to disarmament favours the undertaking of new efforts; the Soviet Union and the United States of America appear to be willing, since agreements on this subject have already been concluded between them. Even the principle of on-site control, which was so forcefully rejected in the past is now accepted by them. Negotiations on the regulation of conventional weapons are under way in Geneva and Vienna (conference on disarmament in Europe and the mutual and balanced force reduction in Central Europe).

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[11 July 1990]

1. By its resolutions 43/75 I and 44/116 N the General Assembly expressed its conviction that the question of international arms transfers deserved serious consideration by the international community.

2. Like all issues affecting international peace and security, the problem of international arms transfers is not a matter to be dealt with by the great Powers alone but rather concerns all peoples.

3. If there is a genuine desire to avoid threats to international peace and security in areas of tension, efforts must be made to achieve regional disarmament, which would thus eliminate arms transfers in such areas.

4. It should also be borne in mind that the peoples of such areas are facing very difficult economic situations, apart from the huge sums spent on the acquisition of arms. If the various Governments were to strive continually to reduce arms transfers, they would have more resources for the economic and social development of their countries.

5. At the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development in 1987, the question of the arms trade was considered in the context of the impact which military spending had on the world economy and the document adopted by the Conference drew attention to the fact that the adverse consequences of arms transfers outweighed any immediate commercial benefit to suppliers and any advantages in terms of security.

6. The Government of Mexico believes that at the present juncture, in an atmosphere of growing détente, the international community must embark upon a frank consideration of the implications of international arms trade and hopes that the deliberation of the Working Group on disarmament and the study which the Secretary-General will be submitting to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session will make it possible to identify measures for promoting the implementation of the principle of transparency in all international arms transfers.

PAKISTAN

[Original: English]

[30 April 1990]

1. Pakistan supports all efforts aimed at ensuring the equal and undiminished security of States at the lowest level of armaments and military expenditures, it also supports efforts to ban illegal transfers of arms and arms sales to narco-terrorists and drug lords.

2. Pakistan believes that each country has the sovereign right to determine its own legitimate defence needs. The arms exporting countries cannot ascribe to themselves this right vis-à-vis arms importing or non-weapon-producing countries.

3. It is our view that the question of "arms transfers" should be considered within the overall context of conventional arms control, with all its other inseparable and integrally linked aspects, particularly the indigenous defence production capabilities of different countries, as well as the legitimate security concerns of the States. These aspects must be taken into account simultaneously and in an integrated manner.

4. In Pakistan's view,conventional arms control measures, which are partial, address only a single facet of a multi-faceted issue or are discriminatory, cannot be implemented and are bound to fail. This is particularly true concerning measures that focus on international arms transfers to the neglect of the issue of the indigenous defence production capabilities.

5. Many small and medium-sized States, lacking indigenous defence production capabilities, have no choice but to depend upon international transfers of arms to meet their essential security needs. In some cases, they perceive threats to their security emanating from States with large indigenous defence production capabilities. Obviously, the denial to such small and medium-sized States of the possibility of acquisition of arms through international transfers would endanger their security and would have a destabilizing effect on international peace and security.

6. The international community must, therefore, guard against any attempts to isolate and highlight only one aspect of conventional arms control, namely, international arms transfers, in disregard of other aspects, outlined above.

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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 1 November 1989, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/17, in which, inter alia, it took note of the report of the Secretary-General on co-operation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) (A/44/425) and of his efforts to strengthen such co-operation. It also noted with appreciation the increasing and continued participation of OAU in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work, and commended the continued efforts of OAU to promote multilateral co-operation among African States and to find solutions to African problems of vital importance to the international community.

2. Deeply concerned at the critical economic situation in Africa, the General Assembly reaffirmed that the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (Assembly resolution S-13/2 of 1 June 1986, annex) was the responsibility of the international community as a whole and called upon the Secretary-General of the United Nations to continue to ensure closer co-operation and co-ordination with the Secretary-General of OAU in the implementation and monitoring of the Programme of Action.

3. The General Assembly also called upon the Secretary-General, notwithstanding the competence of the multilateral financial institutions, to co-operate with the Secretary-General of OAU to contribute to the implementation of measures aimed at a lasting solution to Africa's debt and debt-servicing burden, taking into account Africa's common position on its external debt (A/42/874, annex II).

4. In the same resolution, the General Assembly reiterated the determination of the United Nations, in co-operation with OAU, to intensify its efforts to eliminate colonialism, racial discrimination and apartheid in southern Africa, and requested the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to strengthen co-operation with OAU, particularly with regard to the provision of assistance to the victims of colonialism and apartheid in southern Africa.

5. In the following sections of the report are indicated the nature and extent of co-operation between the United Nations and OAU during the past 12 months, as well as the responses of the various components of the United Nations system to the measures called for in the resolution.

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

6. On 29 September 1989, Mr. Mohamed Hosni Mubarak, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and Chairman of OAU, addressed the General Assembly at its forty-fourth session (see A/44/PV.12). On the same day, he met with the Secretary-General and discussed various African questions of mutual concern, including the issue of Western Sahara.

7. In his address to the General Assembly, President Mubarak reviewed the main political, economic and social developments in Africa. These included Namibia's transition to independence, developments relating to South Africa, the African

Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-Economic Recovery and Transformation (A/44/315, annex), the critical social and economic situation in Africa, particularly with respect to the external debt problem, deteriorating terms of trade, the decline in primary commodity earnings and in investment flows, refugees, hunger and the environment.

8. During the period under review, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of OAU, acting within the framework of General Assembly resolution 44/88 of 11 December 1989 and in the exercise of their good offices, continued their efforts for a solution to the question of Western Sahara. In addition to discussion at Headquarters, the Secretary-General and the Chairman of OAU conferred on the question and on other African issues of common concern at the Ninth Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Belgrade from 4 to 7 September 1989.

9. In April 1990, the Secretary-General of OAU visited United Nations Headquarters to participate at the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 23 to 30 April 1990, devoted to international economic co-operation, in particular to the revitalization of economic growth and development of the developing countries. While in New York, the Secretary-General of OAU discussed with the Secretary-General of the United Nations a number of African issues. They also reviewed the ongoing co-operation between the secretariats of the two organizations and discussed ways and means of strengthening such co-operation.

10. During the period under review, following preparatory and consultative meetings between representatives of the OAU and United Nations secretariats, headed by the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship and the Assistant Secretary-General of OAU for Economic Development and Co-operation, respectively, a high-level meeting between the secretariats of the two organizations was held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1990 (see A/44/364/Add.1). The meeting, which was held pursuant to paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 44/17, discussed ways and means of expanding and strengthening areas of co-operation between the two organizations in the social and economic sectors.

III. CO-OPERATION WITH REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

A. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs of the Secretariat

11. During 1989 and 1990, co-operation between the United Nations and OAU continued on matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security.

12. The Special Committee against Apartheid continued to pursue the strengthening of its co-operation and co-ordination on political matters concerning the issue of apartheid in South Africa, particularly its fruitful collaboration with the representatives of OAU during the sixteenth special session of the General Assembly, on apartheid and its destructive consequences in southern Africa, held in December 1989.

B. United Nations Council for Namibia

13. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 43/26 C of 17 November 1988 and in fulfilment of its mandate as the legal Administering Authority for Namibia until independence, the United Nations Council for Namibia continued to maintain close co-operation with OAU and to participate in its meetings.

14. During the period under review, the Council was represented at the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of OAU, held at Addis Ababa from 17 to 23 July 1989; at the twenty-fifth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held at Addis Ababa from 24 to 26 July 1989; and at the fifty-third ordinary session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, held at Cairo from 12 to 14 February 1990. OAU representatives were also regularly invited to participate in Council meetings.

C. Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

15. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples continued to maintain a close working relationship with the secretariat of OAU and to co-ordinate information relating to developments in regard to Namibia and southern Africa in the discharge of its mandate.

16. During the period under review, the Special Committee was represented at the fifty-second ordinary session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa, held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 10 to 12 July 1989; at the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council of Ministers of OAU; and at the twenty-sixth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State or Government. The Chairman sent a message on behalf of the Committee to the fifty-third ordinary session of the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa. Copies of a statement by the Chairman of the Special Committee were circulated to the fifty-first ordinary session of the Council of Ministers, held at Addis Ababa from 19 to 24 February 1990.

17. Within the framework of the Special Committee's consideration of the items relating to southern Africa, representatives of OAU participated in the meetings of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies.

D. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

18. Within its mandate and areas of competence, FAO continued to support the African national liberation movements and intensified its assistance to Namibia during that Territory's transition to independence.

E. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

19. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat) provided assistance to the African National Congress, the Pan-Africanist Congress of Azania and the South West Africa People's Organization, using its own resources and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) funds. Since these resources were extremely limited, however, UNCHS (Habitat) had been exploring other possibilities. OAU could assist in identifying projects and funds to implement mutually agreed projects not only for the liberation movements but also for newly independent countries such as Namibia.

F. World Health Organization

20. After 16 years of associate membership in the World Health Organization (WHO), Namibia acceded to full membership on 23 April 1990 by depositing with the Secretary-General of the United Nations an instrument of acceptance of the WHO Constitution in accordance with articles 4 and 79 of the Constitution.

21. In response to World Health Assembly resolution WHA42.18 adopted in May 1989, a programme of health assistance for Namibia was initiated, which emphasized mobilization of international support for the establishment of an appropriate health system in Namibia in co-operation with OAU, other bodies of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

22. In addition to appointing a co-ordinator in the relief operations unit at WHO headquarters, a liaison office was established in June 1989 through the Regional Office for Africa. The WHO liaison officer works in close consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other concerned organizations. WHO also participated in the emergency planning mission to Namibia from 28 July to 23 August 1989 to determine rehabilitation measures for returnees during the transition period.

23. The strategy developed for the strengthening of health services in Namibia includes elements for the provision of essential education, the supply of drugs, support to an expanded programme on immunization, the development of human resources for health and collaboration with specialized health services, particularly in the northern region of the country where there was an estimated 6.6 per cent increase in population after refugees were repatriated. Special emphasis was given to early reintegration of returning Namibian health care professionals such as doctors and nurses.

24. WHO also signed a letter of agreement with the United Nations University on 14 March 1990 to provide 21 health-care specialists and general practitioners, most of whom are already in place, requested by the Namibian authorities. In response to a request from the Minister for Health of Namibia, WHO developed alternative health policy options on the basis of primary health care approaches, with an emphasis on equity and the needs of children. A mission was organized prior to independence to help Namibia strengthen health legislation. Three bills were subsequently drafted with the aim of removing discriminatory legislation from existing health laws, creating a national health council to co-ordinate health policies and establishing legislation for the registration of health workers.

25. WHO continues to collaborate closely with OAU in an effort to provide adequate health assistance to liberation movements recognized by OAU and to the front-line States, as well as to Lesotho and Swaziland. In its resolution WHA42.17 the World Health Assembly requested the Director-General "to intensify humanitarian assistance to national liberation movements ... and to make use when necessary of funds from the Director-General's and the Regional Director's Development Programmes and to mobilize extrabudgetary resources to assist the countries concerned to overcome the problems arising both from the presence of the South African refugees and displaced persons and from destabilization activities, as well as for the rehabilitation of their damaged health infrastructures".

26. WHO has also responded to the appeal from the OAU Council of Ministers issued at its fifty-first ordinary session in February 1990, which called upon the international community to continue to increase its assistance in the struggle for peace and security in southern Africa, as well as the Council's request to the United Nations system to enhance the ability of African countries to combat disasters. The WHO response has been channelled through the Regional Office for Africa, its subregional health development teams and the country representatives in the front-line States.

27. Following the peace agreement on Namibia and the withdrawal of foreign troops from the southern region of Angola, there have been positive consequences for health. In Angola and all the other front-line States a special emphasis has been placed on training health professionals through awarding fellowships in a number of specialized fields. These include health statistics, laboratory technology, environmental sanitation, epidemiology and rural health, health planning and public health administration. WHO has recruited consultants for programmes against cancer and against malaria and other communicable diseases. It has procured vaccines, for example, for meningitis control, laboratory materials and equipment for research and development, as well as equipment maintenance. A number of projects of technical co-operation with national liberation movements are also being implemented by WHO in collaboration with the OAU Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa and with UNDP and other international partners.

G. International Labour Organisation

28. ILO assistance to national liberation movements in southern Africa also continued to expand in vocational training, labour administration, workers' education and co-operatives, including income-generating activities for women and refugees. In the case of refugees, following the conclusions of the Conference on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa, ILO financed a consultancy mission fielded jointly with OAU, which has recommended seven small-scale income-generating activities for Mozambican refugees in Malawi, especially the vulnerable categories of women and young persons.

IV. CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

29. Under the auspices of the World LINK Project (an econometric model of the world economy), the Department maintains econometric models of different member States of OAU to analyse the economic outlook of those countries and the evolution of their economic policies. These assessments were included in the report on the Overall Socio-economic Perspective of the World Economy to the Year 2000. These capabilities can be further used to broaden the economic horizons of the research conducted by those countries, by giving more explicit treatment to specific socio-economic development issues. Linking various individual country planning models into a comprehensive framework for a regional model could provide an excellent basis for studying prospective trends and conditions in the region.

30. The Department recently published an econometric research study entitled African Development Prospects: A Policy Modeling Approach, which gives an in-depth analysis of the economies of several African countries and provides comprehensive perspectives of African development prospects. This publication also examines the effect of alternative development policies that could realistically be adopted by African countries in order to achieve rapid and sustained economic growth. It suggests a methodology for understanding and resolving the crisis in Africa and for laying the groundwork for resumption of long-term economic development. A recurrent theme of the study is that, if developed on a realistic basis and on careful study of socio-economic realities, the results of econometric analysis can contribute significantly to development strategies intended to overcome the crisis prevailing in Africa.

31. The Department also provides information on world trade matrices, which now cover a 22-year period from 1965 to 1986 for four commodity groupings and comprise 80 countries/regions and Eastern European countries. In its analysis of global trade patterns, the Department treats 11 member States of the OAU individually and others as members of subregional groups. The Department prepares comprehensive sets of internationally standardized data measuring economic activity and social conditions in most countries of the world.

32. The Statistical Office of the Department continues with the activities outlined in the previous report (see A/44/425, paras. 38-39). Regarding future proposed activities in the area of statistics, the Department will continue to respond to requests from OAU for substantive technical support and will stand ready to assist the OAU secretariat and its intergovernmental machinery in revising and updating its scale of assessing contributions levied on States members of the organization. It will also make available to OAU statistics of individual member States and regional groupings of member States in various areas, including, inter alia, external trade, industry, national accounts and population. This information could prove very useful to the OAU secretariat in analysing the performance of certain sectors of the economy of regional grouping such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) as required by its Council of Ministers. The Department will continue to assist OAU member States by providing a range of methodological and statistical outputs.

33. During 1990 and 1991, special attention will be given to improving national accounting methodology, including environmental accounting, international trade statistics, statistics and data bases needed to monitor social goals in the 1990s. In addition, technical backstopping support will continue to be provided to technical co-operation projects in OAU member States in the field of statistics and statistical data processing through the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development.

34. The Population Division of the Department for International, Economic and Social Affairs provides basic information essential to social and economic planning in Africa in the form of estimates and population projections for every country. The projections are updated every two years and provide detailed information on population size by age and sex, measures of fertility and mortality, urban and rural populations and rates of growth. Given that the rates of population growth and of urbanization in Africa are now the highest in the world, the estimates and population projections for the continent are of particular importance. The Department also continuously monitors population policies which are reported biennially for all countries. This provides an efficient means by which countries can exchange experience in this area of policy formulation. It is particularly relevant for Africa because it has been observed that national population policies have been evolving more rapidly in Africa during recent decades than in any other region in the world.

35. In connection with its ongoing research and analysis of global development issues, the Department makes available its results through, inter alia, the World Economic Survey and the Report on the World Social Situation, which provide analyses of regional developments, particularly in Africa. In recent years, special attention has been paid to the problems of external debt and resource transfers to African countries. The 1990 World Economic Survey will contain a segment devoted to drought and desertification, an area that should be accorded priority at the national level for Africa, according to the Programme of Action.

36. Regarding its activities on energy, the Department has analysed energy trends and prospects in developing countries, including African developing countries. The most recent report that the Department issued on Energy in the Least Developed Countries focused on Africa.

B. Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat

37. The Department of Technical Co-operation for Development participated in the Joint Review Meeting between the secretariats of OAU and the United Nations, held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1990. In preparation for the meeting, the Department submitted a comprehensive paper giving information on ways in which it might co-operate with OAU through technical co-operation activities falling under the Department's mandate in the areas of priority designated by OAU as suitable for co-operation between OAU and the United Nations. The expertise of the Department is relevant in particular to the proposed establishment of an African economic community, to human resources development and to enhancing the management and technical capacity of the OAU secretariat.

38. The Department implements a substantial level of technical co-operation projects in African countries. During 1989, these projects accounted for expenditures totalling over $65 million, and spanned the full range of substantive fields.

C. Economic Commission for Africa

39. During 1989, the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), as a member of the Joint Secretariat, participated in the seventeenth and eighteenth meetings of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee. The meetings dealt with actions and studies to be undertaken until the signing of the treaty of the proposed African economic community and the drafting and consideration of articles of the treaty, as well as various arrangements for the creation of the economic community.

40. ECA and OAU co-operated in 1989 in the preparation of the programme for the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa as follows:

(a) OAU participated in the three inter-agency co-ordinating committee meetings on the Second Decade (March, June and November 1989) and in the seventh meeting of the Conference of African Ministers for Transport, Communications and Planning at Tangiers (November 1989), during which the OAU delegation took a very active part by, inter alia, presenting progress reports on the Regional African Satellite Communications System and on matters arising from the meeting on issues relating to liner conferences;

(b) OAU and ECA are among the members of the Resource Mobilization Committee of the Second Decade and, in this regard, contributed ideas and proposals during the meetings of the Committee;

(c) In the area of telecommunications, ECA and OAU have pursued their efforts to promote the Pan-African Telecommunication Network (PANAFTEL) and the Regional African Satellite Communications System (RASCOM) projects by actively participating in IACC (RASCOM) and other ad hoc meetings.

41. Concerning the maritime transport subsector, ECA collaborated with the OAU secretariat in the organization of two meetings aimed at better preparing African countries for the forthcoming resumed session of the review conference of the United Nations Code of Conduct for Liner Conferences. These meetings were the OAU first special meeting of African Ministers in charge of Maritime Transport, held at Addis Ababa in July 1989, and the first meeting of the African Intergovernmental Working Group on Maritime Transport, held at Abuja, Nigeria from 4 to 8 December 1989.

42. In the field of industry, ECA continued to intensify its co-operation with OAU through the implementation of a number of activities and through continued collaboration and consultation within the established institutional channels, particularly with the joint committee of the secretariats of ECA, OAU and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) for the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.

43. The tenth meeting of the joint committee met during March 1990 at Addis Ababa to review and decide, inter alia, on further measures to be undertaken with regard to the implementation of the activities of the preparatory phase of the Decade as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989. The meeting agreed on the following texts:

(a) A framework for the preparation of country and subregional programmes for the Decade;

(b) The terms of reference for the national consultants on the preparation of country programmes for the Decade;

(c) The terms of reference for international consultants to assist subregional organizations in the integration of country programmes in subregional programmes of the Decade.

44. The Pan African Documentation and Information Service (PADIS) of ECA has provided a dedicated telecommunications line to OAU in order for the organization to have access to all of ECA, and thereby, United Nations data bases. This is in line with General Assembly resolution 44/17, in which the Assembly called for OAU to be informed of the response of the international community to special programmes of economic assistance and on making adequate facilities available to encourage continued liaison and consultation on matters of common interest as well as on technical assistance.

45. ECA collaborated with the OAU in organizing and servicing the Fifth Conference of the African Ministers for Social Affairs, as well as the International Experts Group Meeting. The two meetings were held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, at the invitation of the Government in October 1989. The Ministers reviewed the background papers that were prepared by both ECA and OAU. Among these were reports on the African social situation and its implications for socio-economic development, the draft African charter for social action, and reports on institutions established by the Conference, namely, the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) and the African Centre for Applied Research and Training in Social Development (ACARTSOD).

D. Centre for Human Rights, United Nations Office at Geneva

46. In 1989, the Centre for Human Rights continued and strengthened its co-operation with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights of OAU.

47. In collaboration with the Government of the Gambia, the Centre organized a training course at Banjul on the topic "Developing national strategies and mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa", which was held from 24 April to 2 May 1989. The purpose of the training course was to familiarize members of the African Commission and senior government officials, who have direct involvement in the promotion and protection of human rights, with the relevant knowledge and information about human rights. In particular, the training course focused upon international human rights instruments, international human rights mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights, the experiences

of the various countries of the region in the implementation of human rights, the role of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and the role of the African Commission and the scope and nature of the African Charter and examined those activities in a co-ordinated context as they related to the region of Africa.

48. The Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights attended the inauguration of the headquarters of the African Commission at Banjul and addressed a special session of the Commission. He held consultations with the Chairman and other members of the Commission and with the Secretary-General of OAU on future areas of co-operation between the Centre for Human Rights and the African Commission. Those consultations were pursued in March, April and June 1990 in visits to Geneva.

49. The Chairman of the African Commission took part in the regional workshop on human rights in Asia and the Pacific, organized by the Centre for Human Rights, which was held at Manila from 7 to 11 May 1990.

50. On 14 June 1990, the Centre organized a meeting of agencies, regional, intergovernmental organizations and other interested organizations to co-ordinate all forms of assistance to the African Commission.

51. In addition, the Centre continued providing technical assistance in the field of human rights to Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, the Gambia and Uganda, as well as to the Arab Institute of Human Rights of Tunis (Tunisia).

E. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

52. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continues to provide full support to the United Nations Programme of Action and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 (see A/40/666, annex I), which was initiated by OAU. The organization participates in all the work of both the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force and the Steering Committee on the Programme of Action, and, in particular, plays a major role in the preparation of monitoring and assessment reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action.

53. Close co-operation between FAO and the OAU Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR) continues with regard to the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign. Three OAU-sponsored projects under the Campaign were under execution by FAO during the period under review. The Joint FAO/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Division of Nuclear and Biotechnology Applications in Food and Agriculture has set up a network of 22 institutes in 19 African countries carrying out rinderpest sero-monitoring.

54. FAO is a member of the OAU/IBAR-sponsored International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control and continued to collaborate with OAU, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Tropical Disease Research Institute in the publication of the Information Quarterly on Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis. At OAU/IBAR's request, FAO has assisted in the identification of a subregional co-ordinating unit for tsetse control activities in eight African countries.

55. FAO collaboration with OAU and the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture continued in the area of biological control of cassava mealybug and green spider mites, mango mealybug and other food crop pests. FAO also collaborates with the OAU Inter-African Phytosanitary Council in various programmes such as the development of a plant quarantine action plan for Africa. Close liaison is maintained with OAU on matters relating to the safe use of pesticides in line with the provisions of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticides.

56. With UNDP funding, FAO is preparing the second phase of the OAU-sponsored project for the integrated management of the Fouta Djallon Mountains.

57. Co-operation continued with the OAU Regional Remote Sensing Centre at Nairobi in monitoring precipitation and vegetation by environmental satellites and incorporating the data into early warning systems for food security in the country members of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development (IGADD) and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). In 1989, FAO participated in a meeting organized by the OAU on the topic "Disaster preparedness in Africa".

58. As a member of the Africa Regional Technical Group on Nutrition, FAO participated in the second meeting of the Africa Region Task Force on Food and Nutrition Development, which was hosted and chaired by WHO in October 1989, with OAU as one of the core members.

59. Since October 1989, FAO has been assisting the OAU Scientific, Technical and Research Commission in the preparation of technical documents for a meeting of the OAU Committee on Oceanography and Fisheries (June 1990).

60. FAO has followed closely the preparation by OAU of the draft treaty establishing the African economic community, as a first step in the mobilization of substantive inputs by the organization in the drafting of Protocols on subjects relating to food and agriculture.

61. During a visit by the FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Africa to OAU headquarters in January 1990, a number of ideas for strengthening liaison, joint programming and other co-operative endeavours between the two organizations were put forward for further consideration at the appropriate policy and legislative levels.

F. General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

62. During 1989, the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) continued to provide technical assistance to member States of the OAU. Thirty-one officials from these States participated in commercial policy courses organized and held at Geneva by the GATT secretariat. In addition, the secretariat organized five trade policy seminars on GATT and the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations in Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Sweden and Tunisia. The secretariat also made available the services of its officials for participation in regional seminars on the Uruguay Round held at Lusaka and Lomé.

G. International Civil Aviation Organization

63. OAU was invited to meetings of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), within its sphere of interest, including the extraordinary session of the ICAO Assembly, to be convened in October 1990, which will consider the important topic of possible noise restrictions on subsonic jet aircraft that do not meet noise certification requirements.

64. ICAO in turn was represented at the high-level meeting between OAU and organizations of the United Nations system, held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1990, and submitted a paper on the co-operative activities of ICAO, with particular reference to human resources and development.

65. ICAO continues to support the United Nations Programme of Action and to participate actively in inter-agency preparations for the Second Transport and Communications Decade for Africa.

66. ICAO also continues to maintain a close and continuous working relationship with the African Civil Aviation Commission, providing expert and secretariat assistance in response to the Commission's request.

H. International Labour Organisation

67. During the period under review, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) participated in a wide range of meetings organized by OAU both of a political and technical nature, such as the Assembly of Heads of State and Government, meetings of the Council of Ministers, the OAU Labour Commission, the African Ministers for Social Affairs conference and technical advisory meetings, as well as regional conferences and meetings concerning assistance to refugees, returnees, displaced persons, migrant workers and disabled persons. In addition, ILO actively participated in the consultative meeting between the secretariats of OAU and the United Nations system at Addis Ababa in April aimed at exploring ways and means of expanding and strengthening areas of co-operation in the social and economic sectors, including support to OAU in its efforts to establish an African economic community.

68. Within the specific context of Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery and the United Nations Programme of Action, ILO assistance continued to concentrate, within the framework of its Programme of Action for Africa adopted by the International Labour Conference in 1985, on employment-oriented training, the development and maintenance of rural and urban infrastructure through labour-intensive programmes and the alleviation of hardships arising out of measures taken by member States to implement structural adjustment programmes.

69. Joint technical co-operation activities maintained the momentum already generated in such fields as assistance to the African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI) and the establishment of regional branches to service north, west and east Africa at Cairo, Dakar and Kampala, respectively, and strengthening the operational centres at Harare and Brazzaville, which service southern Africa in addition to

headquarters role and central Africa, respectively. The research and training activities of this institute expanded to include co-ordination with national institutes in this field of assistance to well over 50 million disabled persons in Africa.

70. With regard to strengthening the institutional capacity of the OAU secretariat itself and its regional and subregional offices, ILO provided a specialist on job classification to study and evaluate existing salary scales, career development and the promotion system, as well as performance appraisal, and to make suitable recommendations. The report is under study for implementation. As concerns consultations, OAU and ILO have now established a Joint Consultative Committee to meet regularly to strengthen mutual co-operation.

71. Other activities of interest to OAU included the development of strategies for employment promotion and human resources utilization in sub-Saharan Africa. A report prepared by the ILO Employment Team was discussed by the thirteenth ordinary session of the OAU Labour Commission, after which the recommendations were submitted for consideration by the ECA Conference of Ministers for Economic Development and Planning held at Tripoli in May 1990.

72. ILO continued to maintain close collaboration with OAU-affiliated organizations, including the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), the Pan-African Employers' Confederation (PAEC) and other subregional economic groupings in which national employers' and workers' organizations participate.

I. International Maritime Organization

73. With regard to the implementation of the transport component of the Lagos Plan of Action (see A/S-11/14, annex I), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) participates, in co-operation with ECA and OAU, in projects and activities within the framework of the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

74. In particular, IMO has undertaken the following activities:

(a) Assistance to ECA, through the Inter-Agency Committee, in the formulation of a draft programme for the Decade, which was submitted to the various meetings of experts and ministers;

(b) Identification, elaboration and evaluation of maritime projects;

(c) Assistance to the countries or interregional organizations for the formulation of draft documents for these projects;

(d) Follow-up of the decade programme and, in particular, co-ordination with ECA on action taken for the implementation of the projects;

(e) Assistance in the presentation of the projects to the consultative and technical meetings with donors on maritime projects;

(f) Follow-up and updating of the projects;

(g) Participation in the work of the inter-agencies, expert and ministerial committees in the evaluation of the different phases of the Decade.

75. At the national level, the IMO technical co-operation programme has promoted and assisted in the establishment or improvement of nautical schools and marine academies. Examples of the African institutions assisted or scheduled for assistance are the Nigerian Nautical College, the Maritime Training Institute in Lobito, Angola, and the Higher Institute for Maritime Studies in Morocco.

76. At the regional level, IMO has continued its support to the Academy of Sciences and Techniques of the Sea at Abidjan, for French-speaking African countries, and the Regional Maritime Academy at Accra, for English-speaking African countries.

77. IMO has acted as the executing agency for numerous national projects dealing with maritime safety, maritime administration, maritime legislation and technical port operations. These contribute to the development of human resources by training individual experts on the specific disciplines and by providing advice on the planning of the necessary cadres to manage or administer essential shipping and maritime services in the countries concerned. IMO is at present implementing or providing assistance to projects in over 15 countries in Africa.

78. Continuous advice and support for maritime transport development in Africa are available through IMO regional maritime advisers who are stationed in Lagos and, until recently, in Abidjan. An adviser on maritime legislation for French-speaking countries in Africa has also done very useful work. In addition, the inter-regional maritime advisers and consultants based at IMO headquarters in London are available on request to advise the African countries on maritime questions.

J. International Monetary Fund

79. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has co-operated with OAU during 1989 through OAU member States that are also Fund members and, at the United Nations, through contacts between the Director of the IMF office of the United Nations, who is also the Special Representative of IMF to the United Nations, and the OAU Steering Committee in relation to Africa's Priority Programme.

80. In accordance with its role, the Fund carries out its regular consultations with the authorities of member States regarding their economic and financial situations and provides financial and technical assistance in support of adjustment programmes in African countries. The Managing Director visits a number of African countries during the year. The Fund also plays an active role in helping African countries mobilize additional external resources to finance their adjustment programmes.

81. In 1989, the Fund continued to provide balance-of-payments support to a large number of African countries that have adopted adjustment programmes. At the end of 1989, the Fund gave financial assistance to 30 African countries, with the total amount committed under all its facilities reaching SDR 3.0 billion. As at that date, 7 countries had Stand-By Arrangements (SBA); 13 countries had arrangements under the Structural Adjustment Facility (SAF), including 1 country with an arrangement under both SAF and SBA; 1 country had an Extended Fund Facility; while 10 countries had arrangements under the newly created Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility.

K. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

82. The memorandum of understanding signed between the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat) and OAU in 1986 contains three main areas of co-operation, that is, reciprocal representation, exchange of information and co-operation in joint missions and other activities:

(a) Reciprocal representation: UNCHS (Habitat) regularly participates in the relevant meetings of OAU, and OAU participates in the sessions of the Commission on Human Settlements. This practice has been extremely useful, especially with reference to the formulation of resolutions and recommendations for further action;

(b) Exchange of information: Documents and publications of common interest, including pertinent decisions and resolutions of governing bodies of the two organizations, are regularly exchanged. Decisions of OAU with respect to the Lagos Plan of Action, the Monrovia Strategy for Economic Development in Africa (see A/34/552, annex I) and the United Nations Programme of Action have been particularly helpful in reorientation of UNCHS assistance to African countries;

(c) Joint missions and other activities: In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding, the following four areas have been presented to OAU as being especially suitable for future co-operation between UNCHS and OAU:

(i) Technical co-operation among developing countries: a number of African countries have carried out innovative research in the development of building materials and technologies which could be useful to many other African countries. Arrangements could be made under the mechanism for technical co-operation in developing countries to diffuse these construction technologies among African countries;

(ii) Implementation of national shelter strategies to the year 2000 in African countries: several African countries are currently engaged in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies to the year 2000. UNCHS (Habitat), in co-operation with the Government of Finland, supports these efforts as part of a global programme and is assisting the Governments of Uganda and Zimbabwe in this activity. OAU could be helpful in mobilizing additional resources so as to disseminate the results of this experience throughout Africa and to provide technical assistance to African countries upon request to enable them to formulate

and implement national shelter strategies to the year 2000. The Centre organized a meeting on the subregional Global Shelter Strategy for East African countries at Nairobi from 29 January to 2 February 1990. Further subregional seminars are planned for francophone countries and for the southern African and anglophone West African subregion;

(iii) Refugee settlements: UNCHS (Habitat) and OAU could jointly convene a training workshop on planning and management of refugee settlements in Africa, making use of the substantial experience of UNCHS (Habitat) with problems related to refugee settlements. The workshop could review the actual experience in various African countries and formulate guidelines and recommendations for future action;

(iv) Establishment of technical networks to promote manpower capacity building: while there are several African countries that lack proper training institutions in the field of human settlements, there are also a large number of institutions that are strong on a specific field of human settlements training. OAU, in collaboration with UNCHS, could identify the institutions that need strengthening, as well as the stronger institutions which, with external support, could be further strengthened so that they could serve as regional centres in their specific fields of training.

83. Within the framework of the 1990-1991 work programme, UNCHS (Habitat) is currently implementing over 70 projects in 33 African countries.

L. United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

Activities pertaining to priorities on the agenda submitted by the OAU secretariat on ways and means of concretizing regional and multilateral programmes/projects in co-operation with OAU

84. Transnational corporations are involved in one way or another in those sectoral areas which OAU identified as priority areas that should be considered as a matter of priority co-operation with the United Nations and its agencies. As a United Nations agency, with the mandate on the issues involving dealings with transnational corporations, the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations would wish to highlight several areas for co-operation with the OAU secretariat.

Economic co-operation and integration with special focus on the African economic community

85. At the subregional level, major activities, some of which are already ongoing, will include the following:

(a) Establishment of multinational joint ventures among African countries;

(b) Enhancement of the capabilities of indigenous business enterprises for joint ventures with transnational corporations;

(c) Policy harmonization measures in investment arrangements;

(d) Activities to facilitate co-operation in the exploration and development of hydrocarbons;

(e) Institutional facility and development, including computer hardware and software, for collection and analysis of agreements with transnational corporations, particularly in the natural resource sectors with a view to determining the areas and scope for improvement;

(f) Studies on the effect economic integration is having in terms of encouraging direct foreign investment in the relevant subregions in Africa.

86. At the continental level, major activities in the context of the OAU agenda include the following:

(a) Studies on strategies to encourage increased and mutually beneficial direct foreign investment by transnational corporations in Africa;

(b) Measures to improve contractual arrangements in the tourist sector between African countries and transnational hotel chains;

(c) Entrepreneurial development programmes to create small- and medium-sized enterprises through the combined input of Governments, commercial banks, domestic corporations and transnational corporations;

(d) Short-term, high-level training workshops on negotiations with transnational corporations covering a whole range of issues, such as policy formulation and implementation of foreign investment arrangements, structuring of joint ventures, acquisition of technology, management contracts and natural resource-based contracts (in petroleum, mining, fisheries, forestry etc.).

Environment and development in Africa

87. The major activities the Centre has been contemplating in this area, which has now been listed by OAU as a top priority, include the following:

(a) The establishment of environmental standards, including environmental protection laws and regulations pertaining to investment by transnational corporations in Africa;

(b) Development of an institutional mechanism for environmental data collection and for monitoring and enforcement of environmental standards, including the disposal of toxic and hazardous wastes or other forms of wastes likely to endanger the environment;

(c) Structuring of contractual arrangements with transnational corporations in the mining, energy and other natural resources sectors, such as forestry and fisheries, to ensure elaborate and effective environmental safeguards.

Human resources and development

88. Major programme activities in this area, in which the OAU secretariat could co-operate in their expansion and implementation, include the following:

(a) Support to management and public administration institutions in carrying out regular training programmes for mid-level officials on foreign investment issues and policies involving participation by transnational corporations in joint ventures, management contracts, technology licensing, etc.;

(b) Support to institutions of higher learning in Africa, i.e. universities in the development and implementation of a curriculum for graduate studies on issues relating to transnational corporations covering law, economics and international business. Such studies would focus on contractual and financial issues involving the participation of transnational corporations in the economies of African countries.

89. Other activities by the Centre necessitating the co-operation of the OAU secretariat include the following:

(a) Research and studies on the socio-cultural and political impact of transnational corporations in Africa, and related problems of sovereignty;

(b) The code of conduct on transnational corporations, in particular the need for Africa effectively to participate in shaping the code that would ultimately emerge to ensure that it is favourable to the needs of Africa;

(c) Development of a legal and institutional framework for direct foreign investment in Africa and implementation of appropriate incentives and support for indigenous entrepreneurs.

M. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

90. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) contributed as an observer to the review of the draft treaty establishing the African economic community undertaken by the OAU Permanent Steering Committee at its eighteenth and nineteenth ordinary sessions.

91. In the area of commodities, the Group of Experts on African Commodities, which was established by the Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 43/12 of 25 October 1988, held four meetings in 1989. OAU participated fully in these meetings.

92. Consultations were held with OAU concerning two UNDP-financed projects on policies for improving the commercialization of commodities by developing countries and on a programme to promote commodity processing in those countries.

93. In the area of external debt, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD addressed the OAU international seminar held in Cairo in August 1989 on the common position by African States on Africa's external debt crisis. In addition, since the beginning

of the 1980s UNCTAD has been running a technical assistance programme on debt management associated largely with the installation of a computer-based management information system - the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System. Under this programme, UNCTAD has been co-operating with 13 African countries.

94. In the area of trade, the UNCTAD secretariat co-operates closely with the OAU secretariat in the execution of the African multilateral trade negotiations project (RAF/87/157) "Support to Africa in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and to the external sector of African countries". The OAU Steering Committee and Council of Ministers were informed about African participation and the contribution of the project to activate the African Group, as well as its effort to establish a national negotiating infrastructure. The OAU Council of Ministers adopted a resolution calling upon African countries to take advantage of the technical assistance provided by the project. UNCTAD and UNDP are co-operating with OAU in order to improve the ability of African countries to negotiate effectively and to build national negotiating infrastructures. In addition, the project is aimed at strengthening of the service sector which would provide to African countries viable means of increasing their foreign exchange earnings or at least permit them to realize unexploited export potential.

95. UNCTAD has provided assistance in the area of maritime transport in a number of programmes and projects in the African region. Three major projects fully support the basic aims and objectives of the Second Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, and are particularly designed to facilitate and reinforce managerial skills on the main transport routes of Africa. The UNCTAD secretariat has also developed a cargo tracking system which will be systematically implemented under these projects on all major transport routes.

N. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

96. During the period under review, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO) continued its contacts with OAU with the view to enhancing their co-operation on matters related to disaster relief and disaster preparedness and prevention in Africa. In this regard, UNDRO participates in OAU annual meetings and in July 1989 it informed the OAU Steering Committee meeting that it would co-operate closely with OAU in its efforts to combat disasters in Africa.

97. In October 1989, UNDRO participated in an inter-agency meeting, called by OAU and held at Addis Ababa, to discuss and approve an OAU plan of action for disasters in Africa. The plan was adopted in February 1990 by the OAU Council of Ministers, together with a resolution on disasters.

98. UNDRO also attended an inter-agency meeting organized by OAU and held at Geneva in April 1990 to discuss the contribution of the United Nations system in the implementation of the OAU Council plan of action.

99. UNDRO continued to provide OAU with information on its activities in Africa, particularly with regard to relief assistance. During the period under review, the

Office was involved in relief operations and national and regional disaster preparedness and prevention projects implemented in or with the participation of the following OAU member States: Algeria, Angola, Burundi, Djibouti, Egypt, Lesotho, Liberia, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Tunisia, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

100. Within the framework of UNDRO/OAU co-operation, UNDRO submitted five specific proposals in April 1990 for consideration by OAU. With regard to relief activities, two of the five proposals related to the facilitation of the transit of relief supplies between African States and to assistance to displaced persons in southern Africa. The other three proposals concerned disaster preparedness and prevention, including a proposal on the establishment of a "network" of subregional disaster management centres.

O. United Nations Development Programme

101. UNDP continued to provide consultancy services to OAU and its Permanent Steering Committee regarding the preparation of a treaty for an African economic community. The project document for the provision of further assistance by UNDP to OAU for the establishment of an African economic community will be finalized for approval in the near future. Furthermore, a project document is currently being reformulated through which UNDP would assist the OAU secretariat in the strengthening of its administrative, financial and management mechanisms in order to ensure an optimum utilization of the resources at its disposal.

102. Through the projects financed by the UNDP Trust Fund for Assistance to Refugee-related Development Projects in Africa, pursuant to the Second International Conference on Assistance to Refugees in Africa, assistance was provided for development activities benefiting refugees and returnees, and missions were undertaken for an assessment of the needs of refugees and displaced people.

103. Under the special programme of assistance to national liberation movements, UNDP continued to extend to the movements recognized by OAU technical assistance for the promotion of professional expertise and human resources development in areas such as general education, administration and management of community services, vocational training, agriculture and food production.

104. UNDP also continued to provide full support for the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action. UNDP participated in the meetings of the Steering Committee and the Inter-Agency Task Force, and provided financial resources for the functioning of the Steering Committee secretariat. Furthermore, UNDP financed a project for the establishment of a high-level group of experts, who are to undertake an in-depth assessment of commodities of interest to Africa and the scope for export diversification. Other recently approved UNDP funded activities to support OAU include, biological control of food crops, pest control, veterinary vaccine production and quality control, and the implementation of Lagos Plan of Action in the area of science and technology. In collaboration with UNIFEM, UNDP is also in the process of approving a project to establish a women's unit in the OAU secretariat.

P. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

105. During the period under review, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) continued to strengthen its co-operation with OAU through the implementation of a number of activities. UNESCO attended the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government as well as OAU ministerial meetings related to its fields of competence. These meetings enabled UNESCO to provide information on its major programmes such as the World Decade for Cultural Development, the International Literacy Year and the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa in the fields of scientific and technological research and of research and development.

106. Owing to the exceptional situation of the region, UNESCO has singled out Africa as a high priority area for assistance and has prepared a paper entitled "Priority Africa" describing its programme of action for the next five years. The addendum to the present report contains specific programmes and projects to be implemented in Africa during 1990 and 1991.

107. In addition, an intersectoral team visited Addis Ababa in January 1990 in order to discuss with the OAU secretariat and its specialized agencies. Together, they identified several areas for future co-operation, among which are the following:

(a) Organization of the sixth conference of ministers of education, to be held in 1991;

(b) Highlighting the importance of the International Literacy Year and stimulating literacy activities by means of a joint broadcast by the Director-General of UNESCO and the Secretary-General of the OAU;

(c) Organization of the African scientific technological information network;

(d) Assessment of African institutions in science and technology;

(e) Organization of meetings, studies and surveys on the Intergovernmental Council for Communication in Africa;

(f) Establishment of the African cultural common market;

(g) Development of a regional network of cultural data banks.

Q. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

108. During the period under review, UNHCR maintained and intensified its traditional co-operation with OAU in various fields of humanitarian assistance for refugees and returnees in Africa. This relationship was governed by the terms of the UNHCR/OAU Agreement of Co-operation signed on 13 June 1969 and the various other initiatives within, inter alia, the General Assembly, the United Nations and OAU itself. The main areas of co-operation and collaboration between UNHCR and OAU during the period were as follows:

(a) Follow-up on the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa: UNHCR and OAU discussed various issues arising from this Conference. This subject featured prominently in all discussions concerning the relationship between the two organizations. In this connection, it was agreed that the OAU would establish necessary contacts with the governing councils of the development agencies such as the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the World Bank, UNDP etc. with a view to their including the implementation of refugee assistance programmes in their regular activities. OAU would also lend support to the High Commissioner in his efforts to mobilize funds from both traditional and non-traditional donor countries for the activities of UNHCR. In addition, OAU would work at the appropriate levels to ensure that the development agencies adopt appropriate mechanisms with which to accommodate refugee assistance components in their general programmes.

(b) Participation in the work of the OAU Commission of Fifteen on Refugee Matters and that of its Co-ordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa: UNHCR participated in the work of the above bodies of OAU in order to promote an environment with better legal protection for the refugees and returnees and displaced persons in Africa. As a result of continued co-operation in this area, several African Governments ratified the 1969 OAU Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa, during the period under review.

(c) Representation of UNHCR in Addis Ababa: the UNHCR Liaison Office for Africa, located at Addis Ababa, participated as an observer in the activities and discussions of OAU concerning refugee issues and problems. Similarly, OAU continued to participate as an observer in the deliberations of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme. UNHCR and the OAU secretariat worked together to ensure that the Africa Refugee Day was properly celebrated on 20 June 1989, as has been the practice for some time now.

(d) Evacuation and resettlement of South African refugees: during the period under review, the policy sponsored jointly by OAU and UNHCR continued to operate. Through that policy, resettlement places for South African refugees were obtained in other African countries apart from those of first asylum (normally the front-line States). That policy thereby continued to assure safe asylum to several refugees whose lives would otherwise have been threatened.

(e) Repatriation of Namibian refugees: the highlight of UNHCR/OAU co-operation during 1989 consisted of the preparations for and organization, of the repatriation of Namibian refugees as part of the implementation of Security Council resolution 435 (1978) of 29 September 1978. Joint consultations and discussions greatly assisted in facilitating the political impetus which eventually resulted in the voluntary repatriation of 43,000 Namibian refugees during this period.

(f) Review of OAU/UNHCR co-operation agreement: during 1989, UNHCR and OAU agreed to review at a later date the 1969 co-operation agreement which has so far governed the relationship between the two bodies. The aim of this exercise is to further intensify the areas of co-operation between the two organizations.

R. Universal Postal Union

109. Co-operation between the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and OAU takes place within the context of the activities conducted by UPU and the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU), primarily in the area of technical assistance to African countries.

110. An agreement on co-operation between UPU and PAPU, a specialized agency of OAU, was concluded, inter alia, for purposes of programme co-ordination and joint implementation of technical assistance activities, taking into consideration the resources provided by each of the two parties.

111. UPU and PAPU did not carry out any joint activity during the period from May to December 1989.

112. UPU, however, provided substantial technical assistance in the form of activities to member countries of PAPU in the following areas: (a) 11 months of consultant missions for training and research for operational activities; and (b) 63 training fellowships for a variety of postal specializations.

113. In addition, UPU provided direct assistance to 29 postal administrations of member countries of PAPU in the form of either consultant missions or fellowships and/or equipment.

S. World Health Organization

114. The Heads of State and Government of OAU adopted the Declaration on Health as a Foundation for Development at their twenty-third ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa, from 27 to 29 July 1987 (A/42/699, annex I). The Declaration suggested, inter alia, that Governments define or redefine their politico-administrative policies in order to reinforce the managerial responsibilities of the local or district level for social and economic development, including health. That emphasis is in line with that of the Africa Health Development Scenario elaborated by the member States of the WHO African region and is also aligned with the newly emerging concept in WHO of intensified and integrated co-operation, on a country-by-country basis, aimed at overcoming the economic and managerial problems which are preventing the efficient and rapid implementation of primary health care and thus the achievement of health for all the African peoples. WHO and OAU member States co-operate in the implementation of broad objectives of the health programme in Africa through the mechanism of the OAU Conference of Ministers of Health. WHO assists the OAU secretariat and its Health Bureau to organize these conferences.

115. WHO participated actively in the joint meetings of OAU and the organizations and organs of the United Nations system at which areas for mutual co-operation and collaboration were discussed. The Deputy Director-General of WHO led the delegation to the high-level meeting held at Addis Ababa, from 2 to 4 April 1990, which focused on six priority areas: establishment of the African economic community; agriculture, food and nutrition; refugees and emergency relief; environment and development; development of human resources; and science and technology. Since health is intimately bound to all of these development issues,

WHO offered specific support to the six priority areas through (a) strengthening analytical and management capacities at the country level and through supporting OAU policy-making in respect to international measures required in relation to the political and social problems arising from the fight against acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS); (b) ensuring an effective contribution from the African region to the WHO/FAO International Conference on Nutrition to be held in December 1992; (c) making available the services of the Pan-African Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response to all countries in need, and implementing joint activities within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction; (d) putting a major emphasis on environmental health programmes in collaboration with OAU and other United Nations agencies, as well as on the control of emerging environmental hazards; (e) strengthening human resource development, particularly at the local or district level; and (e) promoting the development and use of technology that is appropriate, affordable and acceptable to local communities, as well as by strengthening the capacity in Africa to manufacture essential drugs, vaccines and biological products, all of which are vital to the health programme in Africa.

T. World Intellectual Property Organization

116. During the period under review, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) continued to intensify its co-operation with OAU.

117. In December 1989, WIPO and OAU jointly organized a regional seminar on industrial property, which was the first such seminar to be held in Mauritius. WIPO was represented by a Deputy Director-General and two officials, while OAU was represented by an Assistant Secretary-General and one official. There were 33 participants from 22 African countries, in addition to 23 Mauritian participants. There were eight invited guest speakers from Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, France, Mauritius, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United Republic of Tanzania, in addition to a speaker from WIPO. The purpose of the seminar was to provide policy makers in research and development institutions with an opportunity to focus attention on and discuss the importance of industrial property in the technological and economic development of African countries.

118. In April 1990, WIPO participated in a high-level meeting between the secretariats of OAU and of the United Nations system, which was held at Addis Ababa.

119. In preparation for the meeting WIPO forwarded information documents explaining activities of co-operation with OAU and provided a document containing information explaining the activities of the co-operation with OAU. Additionally, during the meeting, WIPO made a statement highlighting technical assistance activities with the member States of OAU that are members of WIPO, a summary of which was provided for incorporation into the final report of the meeting.

120. In April 1990, WIPO and OAU also held a bilateral intersecretariat meeting at Addis Ababa and, together, identified the following areas for immediate and future co-operation:

(a) Training by WIPO of two OAU officials in the fields of industrial property and copyright during 1990;

(b) Holding of a joint WIPO/OAU medal-award ceremony for an outstanding African inventor and a young inventor in June 1991, during the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government;

(c) Organizing of a joint WIPO/OAU seminar in the copyright field to be held in an African country in 1991.

121. In addition to direct co-operation with the OAU secretariat, WIPO continued to co-operate with OAU member States within the framework of the two regional industrial property organizations, namely the African Regional Industrial Property Organization and the African Intellectual Property Organization, and also with the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT). The co-operation involved the organization of joint training courses, the granting of WIPO training fellowships, the awarding of a WIPO medal during the tenth anniversary celebrations of ARCT at Dakar in November 1989, and assistance in the drafting of new industrial property legislation and with the computerization of the industrial property offices of some of the member States.

V. CO-OPERATION IN OTHER AREAS

A. Office for Political and General Assembly Affairs and Secretariat Services

122. The Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People continued to invite OAU to be represented at the African regional seminars and regional non-governmental organizations symposia organized under its auspices. The Chairman of the Committee attended the fiftieth ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the twenty-fifth ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU.

B. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs of the Secretariat

123. The Outer Space Affairs Division co-operated with OAU through regional and international meetings, training courses and workshops organized under the auspices of the United Nations Space Applications Programme.

124. During the period covered by the present report, OAU member States participated in the joint United Nations/UNDP/ECA meeting on remote sensing and satellite meteorology applications to marine resources and coastal management in the Atlantic coast of the African region, held in May 1989. They also attended the United Nations/Indian Ocean Marine Affairs Co-operation Council (IOMAC) workshop on oceanographic/marine space information systems, held in July 1989.

125. The member States of OAU will also benefit from the first United Nations course on remote sensing education for educators, being conducted in co-operation with the Government of Sweden from 14 May to 15 June 1990.

126. On an ongoing basis, candidates from OAU member States are the beneficiaries of annual long-range fellowships offered by States Members of the United Nations and international organizations within the framework of the space applications programme. Member States of OAU will nominate candidates for participation in United Nations international training courses and meetings of experts.

C. Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat

127. During the reporting period, the Department for Disarmament Affairs continued to co-operate with the OAU and with individual OAU member States, both in the specific framework of the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in the overall context of the work of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and related security matters.

128. The Chief of the Defence and Security Section of the OAU secretariat participated in a workshop for senior experts, held at the Regional Centre at Lomé in August 1989, to elaborate an agenda on priority areas for research on peace and progress in Africa and in a follow-up meeting on the subject, held in New York in October 1989.

129. Senior military and civilian officials from 29 OAU member States, drawn largely from areas of conflict in the region, were invited to participate in a high-level workshop on conflict resolution, crisis prevention and management and confidence-building among African States, which was organized by the Department, in co-operation with the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and its Centre for Foreign Relations, and was held at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 5 to 16 March 1990. Senior United Nations and OAU officials, as well as experts from several countries and organizations in Africa, Europe and the United States of America, also participated in the workshop as guest speakers. The OAU Secretary-General delivered the keynote statement and a representative of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, the current OAU Chairman, also addressed the workshop.

130. The Department is co-operating with Member States, including OAU member States and the OAU secretariat, in connection with the implementation of General Assembly resolution 44/113 B of 15 December 1989, in which the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to investigate recent reports that collaboration between Israel and South Africa has resulted in the development by South Africa of a nuclear-tipped missile.

131. Nine OAU member States received fellowships under the United Nations Disarmament Fellowship, Training and Advisory Services Programme during 1989.

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CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 1 November 1989, the General Assembly adopted resolution 44/17, in which, inter alia, it requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations and relevant agencies of the United Nations system to extend their support and co-operation to the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) in the efforts to establish an African economic community, in accordance with resolutions AHG/Res.161 (XXIII) and AHG/Res.179 (XXV) adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly also endorsed the agreement reached between the United Nations system and OAU for the convening of a meeting between the secretariats of the two organizations, to be held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1990, in order to discuss ways and means of expanding and strengthening areas of co-operation in the social and economic sectors. It further requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its forty-fifth session on the implementation of the resolution and on the development of co-operation between OAU and the organizations within the United Nations system.

3. The present report gives an account of the deliberations, conclusions and recommendations of the meeting between the secretariats of OAU and the United Nations, its specialized agencies and other organizations.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

4. At the conclusion of a consultative meeting between the representatives of the secretariats of OAU and the United Nations system held in New York on 11 October 1989, the OAU delegation expressed the desire that the meeting should consider ways and means of strengthening and expanding areas of co-operation between the United Nations system and OAU through multilateral programmes and projects for the African region in the following areas:

(a) Economic co-operation and integration with special focus on the African economic community;

(b) Food and agriculture;

(c) Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies;

(d) Environment and development;

(e) Human resources development;

(f) Science and technology.

5. Participation in the meeting between the secretariats of OAU and the United Nations system was as follows:

(a) United Nations

Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Co-operation, Decolonization and Trusteeship of the Secretariat
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat
Department of Technical Co-operation for Development of the Secretariat
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (UNCHS) (Habitat)
Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator (UNDRO)
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
International Trade Centre
World Food Programme (WFP)

(b) Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
World Health Organization (WHO)
World Bank
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
Universal Postal Union (UPU)
International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
International Maritime Organization (IMO)
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

(c) Organization of African Unity

General secretariat
African Bureau for Educational Science (BASE)
African Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC)
African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI)
Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)
Pan-African News Agency (PANA)
Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU)
Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU)
Supreme Council for Sports in Africa (SCSA/CSSA)
Union of African Railways (UAR)

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6. The following issues were identified as areas that should be considered as a matter of priority:

(a) Economic co-operation and integration with special focus on the African economic community;

(b) Food and agriculture;

(c) Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies in Africa;

(d) Environment and development;

(e) Human resources and development;

(f) Science and technology.

A. Economic co-operation and integration with special focus on the African economic community

1. General

7. The representative of OAU briefed the meeting on the background, strategy, concept and scope, as well as implementation modalities and operational arrangements of the establishment of an African economic community within the framework of a document entitled "Economic co-operation and integration in Africa towards establishment of an African economic community" (OAU/UN/2/V).

8. The meeting noted the sectors with high integrating capacity which should be considered as a matter of priority as defined by the OAU policy organs, including transport and communications, industry, agriculture, energy, human resources, culture, science and technology, trade, money and finance. It recommended that the programme of the African economic community should be outlined on the basis of those sectors, which would constitute the backbone of the community. Those key sectors must aim at solving problems common to the majority of the African populations.

2. Operational modalities and arrangements

9. The meeting focused its discussion on the following specific issues regarding the operational modalities and arrangements:

(a) The need to give top priority to the human dimension and capacity building in the integration process, focusing on education, training, culture, science and technology and basic health care, and to the most vulnerable groups (children, women and the poor);

(b) The necessity to rationalize, harmonize and co-ordinate the activities of existing economic groupings, other intergovernmental organizations and the African economic community, and to establish institutional links among them, as well as to strengthen and to provide the financial support to these institutions;

(c) The need to plan effectively, mobilize and manage resources required for the short-term, medium-term and long-term development process, making effective and maximum use of available resources within the United Nations system;

(d) The importance of involving the African population in the implementation of the African economic community. This would include the mobilization of mass organizations, youth, workers, women and economic operators (including the exchange of peoples and their representatives) within the framework of local democratic structures and institutions. A broad campaign of sensitization of all African populations to the goal and objectives of the African economic community would be necessary;

(e) With regard to the time allotted to various stages of implementation of the project, the need for a more flexible and pragmatic approach that could respond to the rapid and unpredictable changes in Africa and in the world. In this regard, the meeting recommended the development of a contingent strategy to accommodate those fast changing situations.

3. Relations between OAU and the United Nations system

10. It was noted that the establishment of an African economic community was a matter of top priority to OAU. It was, therefore, suggested that the co-operation between OAU and United Nations systems should focus on this point, in conformity with General Assembly resolution 44/17. Finally, it was agreed that in establishing an African economic community, African institutions and experts should be involved in the process of economic integration in their fields of competence.

11. Moreover, the meeting underlined the need to devise a mechanism for harmonizing and co-ordinating United Nations assistance to OAU.

4. Assistance from organizations and other units of the United Nations system

12. The meeting took note of the information that a project document on UNDP assistance to OAU with respect to the establishment of an African economic community was being finalized. Subject to the approval of the UNDP Action Committee, the project would provide a framework for the funding of a number of specific activities relating thereto. In addition, UNDP, under its Fourth Cycle, was financing a number of multisectoral projects for intergovernmental organizations including, inter alia, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Customs and Economic Union of Central African States, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Preferential Trade Area (PTA) for Eastern and Southern African States and the Southern African Development Co-ordination Conference (SADCC). Further, another project aimed at

strengthening the management of OAU within the framework of the proposed African economic community would be implemented shortly.

13. The meeting recognized the importance of strengthening the information data base in all socio-economic sectors to provide the basis for economic integration in Africa, and recommended close co-operation between OAU and the United Nations system to enhance the African capabilities in this field.

14. The meeting also took note of the information provided by other participating agencies and organizations regarding their respective work programmes which might serve as a basis for further consultations to improve co-operation between OAU and United Nations systems. The details of the proposals submitted by each agency, as contained in their respective papers and the summaries prepared for the meeting (see annex), will constitute the basis for bilateral discussions.

Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

15. The Department of International Economic and Social Affairs expressed its readiness to make available to the OAU secretariat statistics on individual member States and regional groups, in areas such as external trade, industry, national accounts and population to assist in the establishment of the African economic community. Furthermore, information and analysis of global socio-economic problems and trends can be provided on a regular basis. In the area of population, biennial information can be provided on the estimates and projections of population of every country. The results of the monitoring of progress in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action by the Department in its area of competence can be made available to OAU. The Department proposed that OAU and its member States consider participating in its model of the world economy incorporated in "Project LINK" through development of national models of individual member States and also through a regional model for Africa.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

16. In its 1990-1991 biennium and its work in Africa, which cuts across all programme areas, FAO will follow closely the guidelines and recommendations of Africa's Priority Programme and the United Nations Programme of Action, as well as those of the study entitled "African Agriculture: The Next 25 Years", which OAU could use to draw up long-term programmes and define joint FAO/OAU endeavours. FAO will respond to the urgent demands of its African member countries and support their efforts to adjust and reform domestic policies and programmes in order to take into account their rural socio-economic problems, and to remove the technical and infrastructural bottlenecks that hamper rapid productivity of the food and agriculture, forestry and fisheries sectors.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank)

17. The World Bank expressed its commitment to working with OAU, African Governments and the regional organizations, especially the African Development Bank (AfDB), ECA, the Preferential Trade Area, ECOWAS, SADCC and others interested in promoting African recovery and sustained development. During the 1990s, the Bank's long-term development strategies and focus would include stepped-up actions

to expand agricultural production; greater efforts to strengthen and expand regional integration and co-ordination; urgent measures to accelerate human resource development, capacity-building and institutional reforms; rapid implementation of measures to foster an enabling policy environment for private investment and entrepreneurial development; and sustained adjustment programmes (taking fuller account of the social impact of reforms) aimed at achieving macro-economic balance and fostering, over time, the transformation of African production structures and the creation of a global coalition on Africa to foster agreement on priority actions.

International Civil Aviation Organization

18. ICAO co-operation with OAU for the establishment of the African economic community would be based on its contribution to the implementation of the Transport and Communications Decade, the Yamoussoukro Declaration on a new African Air Transport Policy and the findings in a current study on a human resource project (Air transport). Co-ordination with, and support to, OAU and the African Civil Aviation Commission would continue. The current aid package of $11 million to States would contribute to the strengthening of the air transport sector through improved management and maintenance of the civil aviation infrastructure and airlines.

International Fund for Agricultural Development

19. IFAD endorsed efforts by OAU towards the establishment of an African economic community. IFAD would continue to increase its financial support to OAU member countries in the field of agricultural and rural development with the overall objective of enhancing national and regional food security and alleviating rural poverty, under the Fund's regular programme and its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries affected by droughts and desertification. IFAD would continue its financial support to the OAU Scientific, Technical and Research Commission in the field of agricultural management training programmes at the regional and national levels and the African Farming System Research, which to date cost $8.9 million. Furthermore, the Fund would enhance its support to African subregional integration, which had already been initiated through IFAD co-operation with SADCC.

International Labour Organisation

20. During the biennium 1990 and 1991 and beyond ILO would pursue its joint technical co-operation activities with OAU and its member States within the framework of its Plan of Action for Africa, which in many respects coincided with the Lagos Plan of Action, Africa's Priority Programme, the United Nations Programme of Action and the African Alternative Framework. The activities would focus particularly on human resource development, assistance for the rehabilitation of disabled persons, social security, employment and productivity, promotion of the protection of human and peoples' rights through ratification and observance of international labour conventions, recommendations and assistance to employers' and workers' organizations and national liberation movements recognized by OAU, and ensuring the mobilization of refugees, ensuring for popular participation in development.

International Monetary Fund

21. IMF would continue to urge industrial countries to adopt policies that are supportive of adjustment efforts in African countries and to provide financial assistance on appropriate terms. IMF would provide its own financial resources to African countries with viable programmes and would play a catalytic role in mustering financial assistance for African countries from both official and private creditors. It remained ready to respond to requests for technical assistance at the regional and country levels and to provide policy advice that would help African countries formulate programmes aimed at achieving a durable and sustainable increase in growth and per capita income.

International Maritime Organization

22. As defined by the OAU policy organs, maritime transport was considered a sector with high integrating capacity that should be given top priority. IMO would continue its co-operation with OAU in its efforts to establish the African economic community through its contribution to the implementation of the Transport Decade, with special emphasis on the development of African human resources dealing with the maritime activity.

International Trade Centre

23. ITC expressed its readiness to develop and submit a detailed work programme for the pan-African programme of action for intra-African trade expansion based on the successful experience gained in the promotion of intra-African trade at subregional level. That would be complemented by a project on the establishment of the pan-African trade information network effectively linking all subregional trade information networks already established or being established. The pan-African programme of action for intra-African trade expansion foresees strong co-operation between OAU, ECA, UNCTAD, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and other organizations with complementary mandates.

International Telecommunication Union

24. ITU would assist OAU in preparing the protocol on communications (telecommunications) co-operating closely in the establishment of regional advanced-level training institutes for broadcasting in Africa establishing telecommunication industries in Africa improving maritime radio communications facilities and telecommunications policy, and promoting improved management of telecommunications systems.

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

25. UNCTAD expressed its readiness to participate actively, within the limit of its resources, in the activities aimed at strengthening the subregional economic integration schemes, in particular with respect to their trade liberalization programmes, payment and trade financing schemes; and promoting co-operation towards subregional economic integration. UNCTAD would also participate in elaboration of those protocols which will deal with matters falling under its field of competence (non-tariff barriers, rules of origin, customs co-operation, trade documents and

procedures, clearing house, maritime and transit transport, provisions for land-locked, island and least developed countries.

Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Co-ordinator

26. If agreed to by OAU, UNDRO in co-operation with the relevant United Nations departments and agencies could assist in (a) the establishment of a network of subregional disaster management centres; (b) the facilitation, through intergovernmental agreements, of the transit of emergency aid to African land-locked countries; (c) the preparation of a plan of action to deal with the problem of displaced persons in southern Africa.

United Nations Environment Programme

27. UNEP would continue to co-operate with OAU in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment and also in the preparation and finalization of the draft regional convention on transboundary movements of hazardous wastes. In addition, UNEP would consider providing assistance, within its limited resources, to the following OAU activities: Pan-African Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, to be held at Bamako in June 1990; the 1991 African Year of the Environment; pollution control, particularly toxic wastes and dangerous products, including those banned or severely restricted; environmental legislation, including conventions and protocols; and management of natural ecosystems, including desertification, deforestation and control of water resources.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

28. As its intersectoral basis for technical co-operation with OAU and African member States, and for strengthening the technical and management capacities of African educational, scientific, cultural and socio-economic development institutions at the national, subregional and regional levels, UNESCO has prepared a six-year major programme - "Priority Africa". UNESCO would implement the programme in co-operation with OAU and its specialized agencies with a view to enhancing collective self-reliance, socio-economic development and economic co-operation and integration in Africa.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization

29. The representative of UNIDO recalled his organization's consent in principle to place at the disposal of OAU a consultant to assist in preparing the protocol relating to the chapter on "Industry" of the draft treaty of the African economic community. He reported on the preparations for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000), whose preliminary work was reviewed in Addis Ababa by the joint ECA/OAU/UNIDO secretariat in March 1990. He expressed the view that the programme of action to be prepared at the national and subregional levels would be an important landmark in African economic integration and would be consistent with the objectives of the African economic community.

30. UNIDO also expressed an interest in providing technical assistance for the African Conference on Environment and Development. UNIDO planned to provide OAU

and the Malian Government with two consultants to assist in the preparation of technical documents for the Conference and to cover the travel and living expenses of some of the participants from African countries.

Universal Postal Union

31. UPU would collaborate with OAU and especially with the Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU) to implement the guidelines contained in the Final Act of Nairobi, adopted by the African Ministers responsible for posts (November 1988), and to realize the goals of the Washington General Programme of Action.

World Intellectual Property Organization

32. WIPO would continue its co-operation with OAU on the basis of their Special Agreement. WIPO was actively involved in providing assistance to the member States of OAU in modernizing legislation, upgrading the infrastructural set up and in the development of human resources through general and specialized training courses. In December 1989, WIPO organized jointly with OAU a seminar on regional industrial property in Mauritius for officials from research and development institutions in Africa. In addition, WIPO co-operated with the OAU member States within the framework of the African regional industrial property organizations.

World Meteorological Organization

33. WMO provided approximately $20 million per year in assistance to African countries. The main programmes which could be carried out in co-operation with OAU would be at the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development which will serve as a continental focal point for environmental and climate issues; the Agrohydrological and Meteorological Programme for the members of the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and the Drought Monitoring Centres for the Eastern and Southern African countries, which contribute to environmental and climate monitoring and applications of agrometeorology towards the increase of food production in the concerned countries; the implementation of the programmes of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, in particular the co-ordination of the Regional Climate Network based at the WMO regional office in Bujumbura, Burundi; the establishment of a regional co-operation programme for a tropical cyclone forecasting system in the south-west Indian Ocean countries; and the development of adequate human resources in the specialized fields of meteorology and water resources through the use of the regional training centres in Africa. Furthermore, WMO was ready to assist OAU in enhancing the management and technical capabilities of its specialized institutions and its secretariats.

B. Food and agriculture

34. The OAU secretariat introduced a document on food and agriculture and submitted three projects requiring joint participation with the United Nations agencies.

35. Concerning the workshop on the subject "What went wrong with African food and agriculture?", the meeting recommended that the goal of the workshop should be to draw up a common African agricultural programme to be submitted in due course to the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government. The common African agricultural programme should strengthen economic and technical co-operation among African countries and should provide a basis for the establishment of the African economic community.

36. As regards the first project, the meeting recommended that an in-depth analysis should be undertaken of all existing studies, strategies, plans and programmes for African agricultural development with a view to preparing a draft common African agricultural strategy and programme. The draft should be submitted to an inter-agency consultative meeting for finalization. OAU should consult the relevant African regional organizations and international bodies concerned on the design and implementation of the study.

37. As regards the second project, after in-depth discussions, the meeting recommended that its scope should be individual and collective food self-sufficiency rather than food security and that it should be incorporated within the first project.

38. The meeting welcomed the third project, which was on the identification and assessment of underexploited food plants for increasing household food security in Africa, and suggested that its scope be expanded to include other underexploited food resources.

39. It was recommended that OAU should seek the assistance of the relevant development agencies and international and other research institutes in the identification, formulation and implementation of the relevant research activities and the dissemination and application of research findings. The relevant United Nations agencies expressed their willingness to support OAU in the implementation of this programme as an inter-agency exercise.

40. After an in-depth review of agency programmes in Africa and of modalities for co-operation between OAU and the United Nations organizations, it was suggested that OAU should study the programmes of the United Nations organizations in Africa and the records and prospects for their co-operation with OAU as outlined by them in order to identify areas for the intensification and expansion of its co-operation with the United Nations organizations in the food and agricultural sector.

41. Within the context of the implementation of OAU-supported programmes, the meeting recommended strong United Nations inter-agency co-operation and harmonization to avoid overlapping and duplication.

42. It was recommended that the proposed agricultural co-operative programme should be built as a multisectoral one, taking into consideration inter-subregional integration possibilities. The programme should respond as a matter of priority to the need to ensure the production in Africa of appropriate agricultural inputs at affordable prices, particularly to small holders and poorer farmers (including rural women), and strengthen agriculture support institutions and infrastructures

as well as provide proper incentives. In this connection, national, subregional and regional arrangements for integrated economic development should be pursued. In the design and implementation of this programme, care should be taken to ensure that agricultural development assists in reversing land degradation and alleviating rural poverty. The programme should, finally, be a fully integrated one, with agriculture supported by other sectors such as industry, water, energy, transport and communications, research and training.

43. The meeting emphasized the need for capacity-building to increase reliance on African national, subregional and regional institutions and experts, and promote self-reliant development.

C. Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies in Africa

44. The meeting considered the paper prepared by the OAU secretariat entitled "Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies in Africa". After highlighting the humanitarian, political and economic problems posed, the meeting made a number of recommendations.

1. Root causes of the problem of the refugees and displaced persons

45. The meeting recommended that in the light of the study into the root causes of the problem of refugees in Africa (OAU resolution CM 1241 (L)), the OAU secretariat, in collaboration with the United Nations Secretariat and UNHCR, should prepare strategies aimed at eliminating the root causes of the problem of refugees in Africa.

46. The meeting recommended that OAU should strengthen its political role in the search for solutions to the root causes of the problem of refugees and displaced persons.

2. Follow-up of the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa

47. OAU and the United Nations system should consider giving immediate and increased assistance to refugees and displaced persons in southern Africa, bearing in mind the various contributions already made in that regard.

48. Considering that refugees and displaced persons impose burdens on their countries of asylum, the meeting recommended that the link between humanitarian and development assistance should be taken into account when considering action in favour of refugees and displaced persons.

3. Implementation of the principle of burden-sharing

49. Considering the huge burden that the ever increasing number of refugees place on developing African countries, OAU and the United Nations system should increase their efforts to mobilize further resources for projects in favour of refugees and displaced persons in Africa.

4. Co-operation Agreement signed between OAU and UNHCR in 1969

50. Consideration of this item led to the need, already stressed by the two signatories, to review the Agreement so as to adapt it to the new conditions.

51. Any agreement signed between OAU and one of the agencies of the United Nations system should take into account the agreements previously concluded with other agencies in order to ensure complementarity.

5. Emergency situations

52. OAU and the appropriate United Nations agencies should co-operate further in coping with emergency situations by becoming more actively involved in the launching of emergency appeals.

53. OAU and its member States should contribute to the establishment of emergency assistance, particularly by facilitating transit and customs formalities.

6. Refugees and displaced women and children

54. The problem of refugees and displaced women and children should be included in the agenda of the World Summit on Children, scheduled to be held at the United Nations in New York in September 1990.

55. The meeting recommended that the formulation of programmes for refugees and displaced persons should take into account the specific needs of women and children.

7. Dissemination of information on refugee rights and human rights

56. OAU and the United Nations system should use every means possible to ensure the dissemination of information on refugee rights and human rights.

D. Environment and development

57. The meeting discussed strategies for collaboration between the United Nations system and the OAU secretariat in the field of environment and development. It stressed the increasing importance of environment and sustainable development and the challenges they would pose during the 1990s and that the OAU would have to

respond to with the assistance of the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, particularly as it prepared for the African Year for the Environment (1991) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in 1992.

58. The United Nations system would also need OAU to play a catalytic role and provide political backstopping in order to achieve more effective implementation of its programmes for the benefit of member States. The meeting underscored the increasing recognition of the close relationship between populations, human activities and environment. It was further observed that, apart from the regular programme of work of the consulting parties, activities that resulted from the implementation of resolutions of the legislative organs of OAU and the United Nations system required more resources than were normally foreseen in the regular programme budgets. Moreover, duplication of activities, particularly within the United Nations system, would reduce the benefits that could be derived from the resources available.

59. The meeting identified problems that had, in the past, hampered the effective collaboration between many agencies of the United Nations system and OAU proposed recommendations for the adoption of appropriate remedial measures.

1. Problems and recommendations for solutions

60. The following problems and related solutions were identified:

(a) In most cases, it was pointed out that OAU and the United Nations system did not define the level and nature of collaboration that was required in specific projects. Nor did the United Nations system specify the relevant areas where it would need OAU to play a catalytic role and provide political backstopping. It was therefore necessary for both parties to determine the scope of their collaboration in the field of environment, including requirements and institutional support for specific activities. This would go a long way towards establishing the framework for viable collaborative ventures between the two organizations;

(b) OAU and the United Nations system both lacked information on each other's capabilities and activities in the different fields. It would be useful for the OAU secretariat to prepare such information to be made available to the United Nations agencies so as to ease collaborative efforts. In addition, OAU should make available to agencies of the United Nations system relevant resolutions and draft project proposals so that duplication of activities could be avoided;

(c) In order to establish effective co-ordination between OAU and the United Nations system, it was proposed that focal points in the respective organizations be identified and that the interaction between them should be stepped up.

2. Areas of possible co-operation

61. Political backstopping on the part of OAU would be vital to any initiatives by the agencies for the development and strengthening of institutions dealing with environmental issues. Activities relating to these issues are sponsored by the

different agencies with the participation of member States, particularly in the mobilization of resources either from member States themselves, or from donor agencies. One such institution is the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) which is being established with the support of WMO.

62. In order to tap fully from OAU its catalytic and political backstopping support, many areas of direct support from the United Nations agencies to that organization were identified. The modalities of this support were open for discussion between the concerned agencies and OAU. The areas identified were:

(a) Creating and enhancing environmental awareness, particularly with regard to the Bamako environment conference (June 1990), the African Environment Year (1991) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (1992) (Department of International and Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, UNESCO, UNDP, UNIDO, FAO, ILO, UNFPA, WMO, UNICEF, WHO, ECA, WFP, UNEP and IFAD);

(b) Development and strengthening of environment capability within the OAU secretariat and its specialized agencies (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, WMO, UNEP, ECA, UNIDO, UNFPA, WHO, ILO, UNDP, UNCHS (Habitat) and FAO);

(c) Project support in the fields of population, environment and development, particularly as it relates to youth and women (UNFPA, UNDP, WHO, FAO, UNEP, ILO and ECA), children, environment and development (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, UNICEF, ECA, WFP and IFAD);

(d) Pollution control, particularly toxic wastes and dangerous products including those banned or severely restricted (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, UNIDO, UNDP, FAO, UNEP, ECA, UNCHS (Habitat) and WHO);

(e) Environmental legislation, including conventions, protocols and agreements (UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO, UNFPA, FAO, ILO, WMO, ECA, ICAO, WHO and WIPO);

(f) Management of natural ecosystems - deforestation, desertification control and water resources (Department of International Economic and Social Affairs, UNEP, UNESCO, ECA, FAO, UNDP, WFP, WHO, IFAD and WMO);

(g) Climate change issues (WMO, UNEP, FAO, ECA and UNIDO).

E. Human resources and development

63. Human resources issues cut across all the priority sectors under consideration. In order to focus discussion on the item, the meeting, at the suggestion of OAU and its specialized agencies directed its attention to the identification of the following matters:

1. Salient issues related to human resources development and their impact on Africa's development

64. The human factor has been recognized and accepted as the most critical factor in the process of development and one that should be placed at the centre of development. This realization has accounted for the growing interest generated by all agencies in human resources development. In one way or the other, all agencies of the United Nations system and those of OAU are fully committed to human resources development and have accordingly initiated and embarked upon certain programmes within their respective areas of competence and responsibilities.

65. As the programmes expand in scope over the years, however, certain issues would need to be taken into account. First, human resource development is multidimensional and multisectoral in nature. It is therefore a task that needs to be performed by all concerned parties and within all sectors. The scope of human resources development programmes would need to go beyond the traditional education and training programmes to include programmes not only for the development of the able-bodied, disabled and vulnerable population, and for their health, nutrition and environment, but also for capacity-building in all the other sectors of interest of OAU and the United Nations system, including, inter alia, agriculture, industry, trade, communications, transport, population and labour union matters.

66. Secondly, the quantitative aspects of human resources should not overshadow the need for quality. Greater attention would need to be paid to the development of quality human resources through the provision of quality education in its broadest context to include training, technology, performance, the creation of centres of excellence, and the provision of adequate health and nutritional services to the population at large. Ensuring quality human resources should be the focus of the overall human resources development strategy and framework bearing in mind the need to bring into balance the skills and knowledge acquired with the requirements of the African job market and the development tasks.

67. Thirdly, basic to the programmes and strategies is the need for effective co-ordination of activities, collaboration and co-operation, first, between the relevant United Nations agencies and, secondly, between the United Nations agencies and OAU. In addition, a number of activities are taking place in this field outside the United Nations system and OAU. Furthermore, a number of resolutions relating to human resources development have emerged over the years. Many regional and national policy and operative human resources development organs have been established. All these would need to be co-ordinated and, to the extent possible, harmonized.

2. Possible medium- and long-term broad areas of co-operation in human resources development

68. In identifying possible areas for co-operation, the need for consolidating the various requests and establishing priorities from OAU was stressed, as was the need for the United Nations agencies which were currently collaborating with OAU to intensify those efforts, and for those which have not yet done so to take the necessary steps.

69. The meeting identified the following three broad categories, which encompassed a number of specific areas for co-operation for the medium and long term:

(a) Staff mobilization and development: strengthening of institutional capabilities of the OAU secretariat and its specialized agencies. This would involve the mounting of short-term training courses, training workshops and the formulation of human resources development and utilization policies and programmes within the various institutions, with a view to enhancing managerial and operational capabilities of staff;

(b) Strengthening of existing training institutions: programmes for the development of appropriate training aids and materials, and for ensuring the optimum use of existing training institutions within the African region. This would involve curriculum and teaching practices with greater attention paid to specific areas such as management training, human and child rights, culture, development economics, labour conditions and promotion, computer programming and project planning and preparation. Emphasis would also be placed on the pooling of resources for the creation of an integrated training system to benefit not only from the economies of scale, but also to cope with the high resource demand for the effective operation of training institutions;

(c) Studies and research: gathering and storage of information and data as they relate to the development and utilization of quality human resources. This would involve the undertaking of training needs analysis, and studies on human resources development programmes.

3. Obstacles that could constrain co-operative efforts

70. It was acknowledged that a number of obstacles could hinder the process of co-operation between OAU and the United Nations system if they were not removed. Those identified as being of immediate concern were:

(a) The absence of a well-defined focal point within the OAU system with whom specialized agencies could work;

(b) Differences in programming and programme execution procedures among the various United Nations agencies;

(c) Donor's conditions for assistance, which might diverge from the requirements and objectives of OAU;

(d) Lack of effective co-ordination among the various units and specialized agencies of OAU.

Conclusions and recommendations

71. In order for co-operation between OAU and the United Nations system to be effective, it should be carried out on a practical basis. In the first instance, the sharing of field activities and the harmonization of policy objectives and programmes would need to be ensured. Secondly, co-operation in the area of human

resources development would need to be recognized and placed within the framework of the African economic community. At present, co-operation in human resources development and utilization between OAU and relevant specialized United Nations agencies is taking place, although in some cases at a lower than necessary level. These will have to be strengthened, broadened and made more effective.

72. In this connection, and in view of the meeting's observations and the request from OAU, the following recommendations were made:

(a) Specific requests from OAU and its specialized agencies should be consolidated and priorities should be established, taking into account resource availability and the policy guidelines laid down by donor agencies with respect to the funding of projects;

(b) The consolidated requests should be submitted to the relevant United Nations agencies to be considered within the framework of the fifth UNDP programming cycle;

(c) OAU, in collaboration with ECA, the Inter-Agency Task Force on Human Resources and relevant specialized agencies, should prepare a working paper on a comprehensive human resources development strategy to be presented to the OAU Council of Ministers for the required political support;

(d) Optimum use should be made of existing intergovernmental policy-making organs such as the Conference of African Ministers of Education, the ECA Conference of Ministers Responsible for Human Resources Planning, Development and Utilization, the Conference of Ministers of Social Affairs, and the OAU Labour Commission for providing the base in fostering the desired co-operation. The anticipated OAU Ministers of Education Conference should be used as a basic link and instrument for such co-operation;

(e) The work of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Human Resources should be given wider publicity and its membership should extend to other United Nations agencies with OAU kept abreast of the Task Force activities and enabled to play a participatory role;

(f) ECA and OAU should undertake a review study on the existing intergovernmental organs with particular emphasis on the frequency, objectives and outcome of meetings with a view to streamlining these meetings for effectiveness. This is in light of a number of factors including limited financial resources and the constant involvement of a few qualified and well-experienced officials leaving them with little or no time to implement programmes;

(g) OAU should play a greater role in the co-ordination of human resources development efforts within Africa in collaboration with ECA;

(h) Human resources development programmes in support of the liberation movements and newly independent Namibia should be stepped up and given priority attention;

(i) In the development of human resources programmes, special attention should be given to the mobilization and training of staff to manage and undertake the activities of the African economic community. The various programmes for the United Nations development decades should include a human resources development component.

F. Science and technology

73. OAU drew attention to the following problems it faced in the field of science and technology:

(a) Financing of the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa in the field of science and technological research and of research and development;

(b) Training of trainers for the integration of science and technology into the economic development of Africa;

(c) Provision of technical and other support to the Pan-African Union of Science and Technology.

74. OAU also inquired about the concerns of the representatives of the United Nations system and the contribution it could make to ensure the success of their activities in Africa.

Conclusions and recommendations

75. The meeting noted the essential role of science and technology for socio-economic development, especially in the light of socio-political changes and the advent of new and emerging technologies, particularly biotechnology and new materials that were adversely affecting the price of African commodities like agricultural products and minerals, and reducing Africa's bargaining power.

76. It also noted the importance of the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa in the fields of scientific and technological research and of research and development, as a means of promoting socio-economic development in Africa.

77. The meeting recommended that it was essential to strengthen, develop and co-ordinate regional scientific and technological information systems by emphasizing their multi-disciplinary character. Technological information available in patent documents and through the industrial property system should be fully used both for promotion of industrial development and for facilitating the acquisition and transfer of technology in Africa. African countries should also make use of existing international industrial and technological information systems such as the Industrial and Technological Information Bank and the Technological and Industrial Exchange System, which are available at UNIDO.

78. The meeting requested the United Nations agencies concerned to provide the necessary technical and financial support for the development of science and technology in Africa. In this context, due attention should be paid to the need for establishing linkages between research and development results and the users.

79. The meeting recommended that top priority should be given to strengthening and establishing facilities for training scientific and technological personnel, especially in the field of new and emerging technologies and their impact, utilizing for the purpose the existing programmes introduced by the United Nations system. Special attention should be given to human resources development and in particular to the "training of trainers" to enhance human resource capabilities and integrate science and technology development.

80. The meeting recognized the need to popularize science and technology so that it reaches the masses through popular participation. In this respect, the training of mass-media personnel and the use of local languages were recommended.

81. The meeting recommended that the various programmes for the United Nations development decades for Africa should include a science and technology component.

82. The meeting called for increased efforts to ensure sustained co-ordination of United Nations assistance to OAU.

ANNEX

Assistance proposed by organizations of the United Nations system

A. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

1. FAO maintains co-operative programmes with OAU in several technical fields such as integrated watershed management, rinderpest and other animal disease and pest control, forestry, crop protection, nutrition and food and agricultural policy management. Within the limits of its resources, FAO proposes to expand and strengthen these traditional areas of co-operation.

2. FAO proposes to continue to support the activities of OAU towards the establishment of an African economic community. The assistance already provided in connection with the development of proposed article 46, concerning food and agriculture, of the African economic community will be continued and extended to include work on the related protocol and other protocols in which FAO expertise and experience will be helpful.

3. FAO proposes to continue to provide technical assistance to the existing economic groupings within the region, in accordance with the OAU decision to base the African economic community on those groupings.

4. In this connection, FAO expresses its willingness to co-operate with OAU in developing the integrative common African agricultural strategy and programme in support of the African economic community recommended by the meeting between OAU and the United Nations system. Co-operation in this regard will include making available to OAU not only the major FAO study, entitled "African agriculture: the next 25 years" but also the detailed information on which the study is based, as well as the experience of FAO and observations on implementation of the recommendations of the study.

5. In accordance with OAU strategy for food security and food self-sufficiency in Africa, FAO proposes to continue to provide support to the subregional groupings as part of the proposed OAU food and agriculture strategy and programme.

6. OAU planned activity in regard to identification and assessment of underexploited food plants, to be expanded to cover other underexploited food resources, can benefit from FAO studies already undertaken on the subject.

7. FAO has assisted African countries in the establishment and strengthening of early warning and food information systems and in preparedness planning and training. Information arising from these activities will be made available to OAU.

8. The proposal on refugees and displaced persons in Africa calls for, inter alia, the establishment of early warning systems, contingency plans and emergency programmes on the moment of an assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in southern Africa. It also calls upon all agencies to extend the necessary expertise to asylum countries in the strengthening of their early

warning systems and in the formulation of appropriate contingency plans. FAO is already active in this area and plans to continue to be so.

9. In the field of women in development issues FAO can provide, where necessary, technical support and background information concerning monitoring the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies and the Lagos Plan of Action. FAO is also initiating studies on the legal status of women in African countries and is willing to collaborate with the OAU secretariat in this field, particularly through the exchange of information, when and where possible. FAO is willing to participate in regional seminars on machineries and strategies for the advancement of women in each of the OAU subregions where it can contribute background papers.

10. Further, the issue of the implementation of the Forward-looking Strategies is a regular item on the agenda of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination Task Force on Rural Development and the Task Force's reports on progress concerning this item can also be forwarded to the OAU secretariat.

11. In addition, documents from the FAO Conference, technical meetings and consultations on women on development could also be provided.

12. Possibilities for co-operation with OAU in regard to the development of reafforestation strategies to combat drought and desertification will be explored within the framework of the Tropical Forestry Action Plan.

13. In the field of agricultural project management FAO will co-operate with OAU through the Scientific, Technical and Research Commission of OAU (OAU/STRC) and its Agricultural Management Training Programme for Africa in the establishment and operation of the FAO-sponsored Technical Co-operation Network on Agricultural Project Management. The network is a direct FAO response to the concerns expressed in the Lagos Plan of Action and Africa's Priority Programme regarding Africa's weak agricultural project-management capacity and the call upon FAO to address this problem in co-operation with relevant agencies.

B. International Civil Aviation Organization

14. The International Civil Aviation Organization plans the following activities and projects geared to regional integration of Africa:

(a) Continued support to the African Civil Aviation Commission secretariat;

(b) Studies related to the economic development of transport in Africa;

(c) Conducting seminars and workshops aimed at creating better facilities and services for civil aviation and on the economic operatives of air transport in the region;

(d) Development of management capacities for the civil aviation department (including aerodromes departments) and national airlines by making maximum use of existing African management institutions;

(e) Follow-up project on human resources and institutional development in sub-Saharan Africa (air transport) and ICAO training projects;

(f) Assistance to individual States to strengthen their national capacity geared to regional integration by making institutions efficient and cost-effective.

C. International Fund for Agricultural Development

Technical assistance grants for the OAU Scientific, Technical and Research Commission in the context of the Agricultural Management Training Programme for Africa

15. To address the shortage of management capacity for smallholder agriculture, IFAD initiated, in 1984, under its regular programme, the Agricultural Management Training Programme for Africa (AMTA), which is designed to improve management performance of agricultural projects and to strengthen the capacity of national and regional training institutions.

16. Between 1984 and 1989, the first three AMTA subprogrammes, covering 54 agricultural projects in 20 African countries, were implemented. The sub-programmes were implemented with the close collaboration of the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Economic Development Institute (EDI) and OAU/STRC, with AfDB acting as executive agency.

17. During the period from 1984 to 1989, IFAD has provided $4.135 million in technical assistance grants in support of AMTA to OAU/STRC. Co-financing of the first three AMTA sub-programmes by AfDB and the World Bank amounted to $1.83 million. IFAD will be submitting a request for another grant of $1.12 million for the fourth sub-programme for seven African countries to the April 1990 meeting of its Executive Board. This will bring IFAD financing of the AMTA programme (through OAU/STRC) to $5.255 million, representing 63 per cent of the total programme costs of $8.3 million. AMTA has received wide recognition throughout Africa for its effectiveness. Given the success and effectiveness of AMTA, the collaborating agencies are considering the arrangements under which the programme could be institutionalized throughout sub-Saharan Africa. Moreover, OAU has proposed a fifth sub-programme covering North African countries and IFAD is looking into this suggestion.

Technical assistance grant for the Farming Systems Research Programme within the OAU/STRC Semi-Arid Food Grain Research and Development in Africa Project

18. The overall objective of the Farming Systems Research Programme is to stabilize and increase food production in the semi-arid regions of the Sudano-Sahelian zone by bridging the gap between the international agricultural research centres and resource-poor farmers. Interest by IFAD in the food grain research and development project was determined by the fact that improved technologies are already available in Africa but have not yet been locally adapted to the smallholders' farming systems. In order to achieve the overall objectives and ensure sustained effects, the aim of the research programme is to create and strengthen the national farming systems research capacity. To this effect, the

IFAD-financed farming systems research programme foresees the full integration of all semi-arid food grain research scientists into the national research structures of the host countries to ensure that all activities are carried out as a unified research effort.

19. Between 1983 and 1988 IFAD provided a total of $4.8 million in the form of five technical assistance grants to semi-arid food grain research for the farming systems research programme. The programme is ongoing through 1990 and 1991.

Potential support for the establishment of the African centre for fertilizer development

20. OAU, concerned about low productivity of the soils in Africa, established the Fertilizer Research Programme carried out by the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), which undertook preparatory work for the establishment of an African centre for fertilizer development under OAU auspices. IFAD has provided technical assistance grants to the IFDC Fertilizer Research Programme from 1981 to 1984. The establishment of an African centre for fertilizer development was reviewed at a donors' meeting convened by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries Fund in April 1983, and several donors indicated their intention to pledge funds when the proposal is fully elaborated and endorsed by OAU.

21. The convention establishing the African centre was formally ratified by OAU member States in July 1985 and Zimbabwe was selected to host the centre. The African Centre Headquarters Agreement and Board of Management Agreement with IFDC have been finalized and will provide a framework for the centre's activities. The centre will consolidate those research efforts in Africa which address the issues related to soil fertilizer and fertilizer use. The OPEC Fund has requested IFAD to take the lead in the preparatory work towards the establishment of the centre. Furthermore, OAU has called upon IFAD to assist in the preparation of the feasibility study that would define the best approaches and modalities to implement the OAU resolution on the proposed centre in the most cost-effective way. The management of IFAD is currently reviewing preliminary report for the establishment of ACFD with a view of mounting a joint appraisal report with other donors during 1990 and 1991 for potential IFAD financial support to the centre.

D. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

22. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) considers assistance to liberation movements and refugee settlements in Africa as an area that deserves the highest consideration. The role of OAU in this connection would be vital to any UNCHS (Habitat) initiative, especially as regards its institutional framework and managerial and organizational aspects. OAU is well placed to seek essential accommodation with host countries as to the framework and modalities for channelling support and assistance to refugees. As a result of the economic crisis facing nearly all African countries, most of these countries cannot accord the same degree of importance or priority to the needs of their own population for shelter, water supply, sanitation, and other basic human needs let alone the needs of refugees. These rehabilitation needs can only be met through concerted action by the international community and should therefore go hand-in-hand with emergency

assistance. The notion that refugees are likely to remain displaced for a short period of time has not been borne out by experience. The fact of the matter is that most displaced persons in Africa have remained displaced for several years at a time living in dismal conditions and completely marginalized.

23. A positive first step in dealing with the problems of refugee settlements might be the covening by OAU, in collaboration with UNCHS (Habitat) and other relevant United Nations agencies, of a regional seminar composed of experts in the field of refugee settlement and representatives of the international assistance community to discuss details of refugees' basic needs and to review the actual experience in various African countries with the aim of formulating guidelines and recommendations for future action. The seminar would also stimulate the international donor community to provide support for host countries and lay the foundation for the development of a long-term, full scale regional programme.

24. UNCHS (Habitat) would also collaborate with OAU in preparing a study on ways and means of linking African countries by rail. In addition to its immense impact on trade, the promotion of rail transport, particularly for carrying freight would substantially contribute to a reduction in the level of pollution produced by vehicles and in the cost of road and highway maintenance.

E. United Nations Population Fund

25. The second population policy project, which builds on the experience gained under the former project (RAF/84/P08), has been drafted and is ready to be signed by UNFPA and OAU.

26. The major objective of UNFPA assistance to OAU is to build the capacity of the OAU secretariat on a population policy formulation process that in turn would assist the member States in the formulation and implementation of population policy. This project will create awareness and understanding on the linkages between population growth and development in the member States.

27. Another possible area of UNFPA assistance to OAU member States would be raising the awareness on the relationship between population and the environment. UNFPA would expand support by providing a consultant to prepare a detailed project document in consultation with the OAU secretariat. The main objective of the project would be to create an awareness in OAU member States on the direct linkages between population growth and environmental degradation. UNFPA can assist by organizing regional and subregional conferences and technical meetings on environment and population development issues.

28. UNFPA is also ready to support the forthcoming OAU environment conference at Bamako. UNFPA could also assist in the plans and programmes of the 1991 Year of the Environment in Africa and in OAU preparation and participation in the United Nations Environment and Development Conference, to be held in 1992 in Brazil.

29. UNFPA can also assist in the area of women in development. This assistance could take the form of creating an awareness and understanding in the OAU member States on the vital role women play in development process, and on the integration

of women in the development process of their respective countries, thereby strengthening the capability of the OAU regional and subregional offices. Assistance could also be provided in the field of enhancing training opportunities for women leaders.

30. The fourth area of possible co-operation with OAU could be in the field of population education, primarily through the non-formal channels such as labour unions, trade unions, other professional organizations and the pan-African media institutions both at the regional and subregional levels.

31. Assistance in this area could enhance preparation of comprehensive plans for integrating population education programmes in the ongoing OAU units at the regional and subregional levels, as well as through training, workshops and preparation of educational material and other training and teaching aids.

F. World Health Organization

32. In co-operation with OAU member States, WHO will implement the actions envisaged in the Declaration of Health as a foundation for development as a major means to achieve health for all Africans by the year 2000. WHO will also assist the OAU secretariat in strengthening its Health Bureau and in organizing the fourth OAU Conference of Ministers for Health. Through intensified and integrated actions on a country-by-country basis, WHO will support OAU in mitigating economic and managerial constraints which delay the achivement of health for all. WHO will support OAU policy-making in respect of international measures concerning the political and social issues arising from the fight against the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS).

33. In the area of agriculture, food and nutrition, the Director-General of WHO has taken the initiative, in co-operation with FAO and in consultation with other concerned organizations, to organize an international conference on nutrition, to be held in December 1992. The WHO Regional Office for Africa will prepare the study needed to highlight the actual nutritional status and deficiencies prevalent in the region. This study could, in the mean time serve as a basis for the required needs of the region to attain food self-sufficiency both at the national and household level. The proposed workshop, therefore, could use the WHO/Regional Office study as one of its resource papers. WHO intends to work out, with OAU and other agencies, modalities for implementation of the workshop recommendation in the area of combating nutritional deficiencies in the African region.

34. In 25 countries where nutritional conditions are well below standard requirements, WHO will work out a concrete initiative with the relevant OAU offices, such as OAU/STRC and OAU Health and Nutrition Bureau, with the view to ameliorating the nutritional situation particularly in the areas of vitamin A, iodine, iron deficiencies, anaemias with special emphasis on children and women.

35. WHO will make available all the services of its Pan-African Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response in the field of training, planning, management, information distribution, research and documentation on disasters in Africa. WHO

will also implement with OAU joint activities in the framework of action of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction (1990-1999).

36. WHO, in consultation with OAU, will place major emphasis on meeting basic environmental health requirements in the African region such as safe water, hygienic excreta disposal and adequate shelter, particularly in countries in greatest need in sub-Saharan Africa. The control of environmental health hazards associated with the use of agro-chemicals, water pollution and hazardous wastes will be increasingly emphasized.

37. In co-operation with OAU Health Bureau and African universities, WHO will strengthen the development of human resources at the local district level by providing appropriate advisers and "partners". In many countries, even the least developed, such advisers can be identified in local, provincial or national institutions, as well as among the residents at the district, provincial or national levels.

38. WHO will promote the strengthening of manufacturing of pharmaceutical, vaccines and biological products in the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States, considering that they are capable of supplying a major part of the needs of essential drugs and other medical related products. WHO will stand alongside OAU to continue to ensure adequate quality control and that the technology is appropriate, affordable and acceptable to the local communities.